

NEWS SUMMARY

Eire power cuts
fear as talks fail

Widespread power cuts are expected across the Irish Republic tomorrow after the failure of talks to avert a three-day strike.

Professor Basil Chubb, the chairman of the employer-labour conference, said yesterday that they had been unable to find a solution to the dispute involving 12,000 workers in the Electricity Supply Board.

Advertisements have already appeared in the Republic's newspapers advising consumers in the event of a strike by workers demanding a 5 per cent pay rise.

The board has offered 3 per cent.

Domestic supplies are likely to be disrupted with cuts lasting for up to four hours and there have been warnings of large scale lay-offs in industry.

Russians
not feared

More than 80 per cent of people see no great military danger from the Soviet Union, according to a Gallup poll published yesterday.

The poll of 889 people, by Bradford University School of Peace Studies, showed that 50 per cent saw "little or no danger" and 36 per cent saw "no great danger".

Nuclear war caused by accident was feared by 51 per cent of those polled.

Cabaret's
swansong

Producers of *Cabaret*, the West End musical which closed last week because of a dispute with the orchestra, spent the weekend trying to persuade musicians to accept a last-minute compromise.

But the Porter Young management are ready to admit defeat. Other West End shows are unlikely to be affected by the musicians' strike, which brought an unscheduled end to the production.

Milkmen's offering

Britain's milkmen have given £100,000 to the NSPCC to set up new child protection teams.

The teams will use modern methods of counselling to advise families, social workers and doctors, as well as investigating reports of children at risk.

The gift was received by Princess Margaret on behalf of the NSPCC and came from a £250,000 charity fund collected after the Dairy Council and Kellogg's gave 10p for every pack of Christmas cards that milkmen sold.

Political
alliance

Emma Nicholson, the Conservative vice-chairman and parliamentary candidate, is to marry nine days after her engagement to avoid any clash with a possible June election.

Miss Nicholson, aged 45, Tory candidate for West Devon, weds Mr Michael Caine, aged 60, on May 9.

"I am convinced there is going to be a June election and we wanted to get married before or after", she said.

Inquiry nearly over

The police inquiry into allegations that an Irish embassy official sold false passports for up to £15,000 each is nearing completion, diplomatic sources said last night.

They also confirmed that the man at the centre of the allegations, Mr Kevin McDonald, passport officer at the Irish embassy in London, had been in regular contact with officials there, through his solicitor, during the inquiry.

Mr McDonald was relieved of his duties last month after allegations that he had sold false passports to customers, including Libyans.

Twins 'quite well'

The Siamese twin boys separated in an operation last week were yesterday progressing quite well in The Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London.

Hassan and Hussein, aged eight months, who come from the Sudan, are on ventilator machines.

Joined face-to-face from the middle of the breast bone to the pelvis, they were separated in a 12-hour operation.

© The condition of Moran Kadosh, aged four, the Israeli girl given a new liver in Cambridge last week, remained stable yesterday.

Major cuts predicted in arms spending

Major cuts in vital equipment for all three armed services will be inevitable over the next five years, it was predicted yesterday.

A report by Mr Malcolm Chalmers, of Bradford University, said that some programmes would have to be axed, such as the proposed European fighter aircraft.

The report is based on an analysis of government statistics in the supply estimates published this year.

Although the cuts will not be referred to in the defence White Paper, to be published on Wednesday, experts believe that a major review of military spending will have to be carried out by a future government.

Black rebels
to rally
for Atkin's
return

By Craig Seton

The Labour Party's unofficial black sections will organize national meetings during the general election campaign in support of Miss Sharon Atkin, the black activist ousted last week as Labour candidate for Nottingham East.

After a two and a half hour meeting of the black sections national executive in Birmingham yesterday, its leaders said that the suspension of Miss Atkin was racist and would seriously damage the party in a run-up to the election. They called for Miss Atkin to be reinstated immediately.

The meeting was attended by Miss Linda Bellos, Labour leader of Lambeth Borough Council, who last week repeated the remarks that the Labour Party was racist that had led to Miss Atkin being dropped by the national executive.

But Miss Bellos refused to comment yesterday and shouted at journalists when asked to comment.

In a statement issued after the meeting, the executive said that the suspension was "discriminatory and calculated to ruin Labour's electoral chances among black voters".

Mr Simon Hinds, a spokesman, said that the meetings would probably start in the run-up to the election, but he said the executive still wanted black people to vote for Labour candidates.

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, would be invited to speak at some of the meetings to explain his position on racism.

While the meeting was going on Mr Afzal Singh Joughi, general secretary of the Indian Workers Association, issued a statement saying that the organization, which he claimed represented 25,000 people, deplored the replacement of Miss Atkin and regarded it "as an act of racism by the Labour Party".

Four other leading black activists, Mr Paul Boateng, Miss Diane Abbott, Mr Bernie Grant and Mr Russell Proffitt, all Labour parliamentary candidates, were not at yesterday's meeting.

will be a cutback of vital electronic and guidance systems over the next year.

Mr Chalmers says that the two main causes of the future cuts are the cost of Trident and the drop in defence spending.

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, has indicated that expenditure on defence over the next three years will be reduced in real terms by 5 per cent. Last year,

the Government ended its agreement with Nato partners to increase defence spending by 3 per cent in real terms.

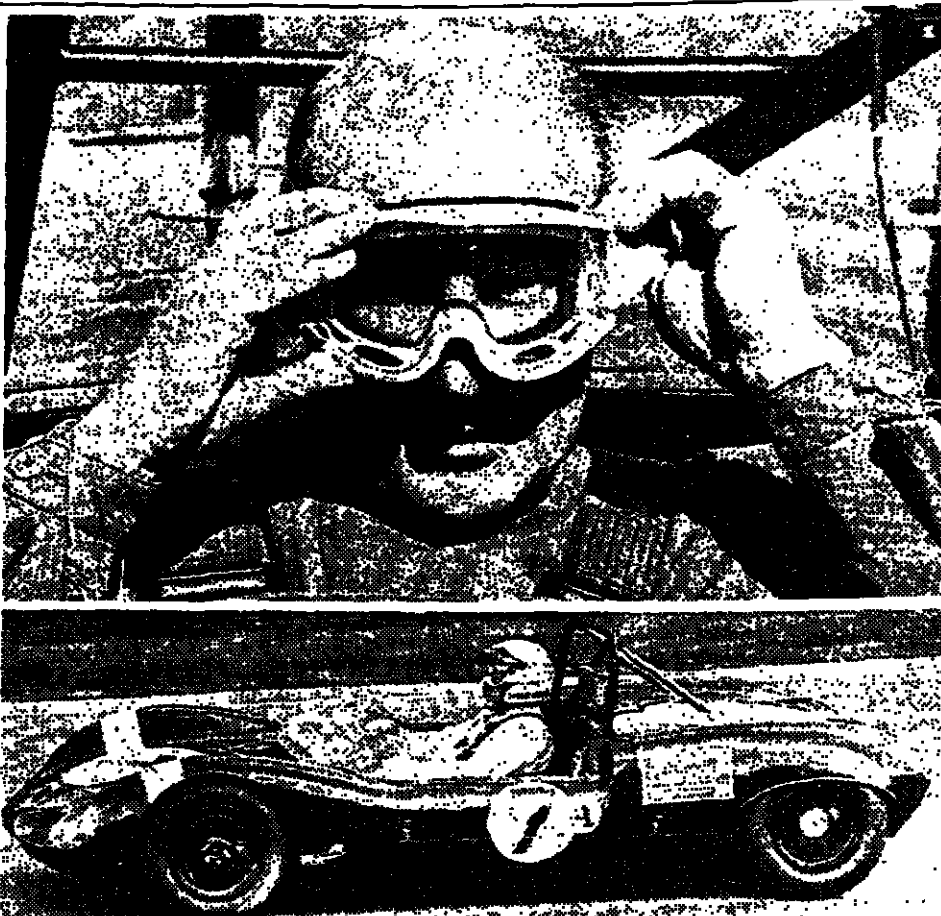
The cost of Trident is estimated to be more than £9 billion. The first submarine is being built and the second is expected to be ordered soon.

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, predicted yesterday that the White Paper would be another chapter in

the Tories' "hidden manifesto".

He said that it would be a "falsehood" for the Government to claim that it could purchase Trident and still afford to keep up existing defences.

Labour business managers have served notice on the Government that they want an urgent Commons debate following publication of the defence estimates.



Strling Moss, the former motor racing champion, behind the wheel of a 1963 Mk 7 Elva at the Historic Car Races at Brands Hatch, Kent, yesterday (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

Man held after bomb haul

By Richard Ford

A man was being questioned by detectives last night after the Provisional IRA suffered two setbacks with the death of a "volunteer" and the seizure of a haul of explosives.

The man was detained when the RUC stopped a vehicle pulling a horsebox in Co Antrim and discovered 2,700lb of explosives, one of the largest hauls during the present troubles.

The explosives were packed into plastic bags and hidden in the horsebox which was stopped near Toomebridge in Co Antrim on Saturday afternoon.

Army bomb disposal ex-

perts took three hours to make the explosives safe and an RUC spokesman said: "The alertness of the police on this occasion has prevented widespread damage to property and death and injury to members of the community."

The security forces believe the explosives were being moved in preparation for further Provisional IRA bomb attacks across the province.

At the same time as they were being seized a Provisional IRA terrorist died when the bomb he was about to plant exploded prematurely.

Terence McKenna, aged 33.

had returned to "active service" with the Belfast group when he was released from prison last June after serving nine years of a 17-year sentence imposed for explosives, arms and ammunition offences.

He was seen carrying two tins into an alleyway near a police station in west Belfast only minutes before the explosion.

A woman who is 36 weeks pregnant was injured in the blast. She was treated in hospital for shrapnel injury. Her husband was also treated for shock and minor injuries.

Last gasp option, page 12

Jobless fall misses marginal seats

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Falling unemployment has yet to benefit a significant proportion of parliamentary seats, many of them Conservative marginals, official figures show.

The figures disclose that amid the national fall in unemployment, there remain pockets of rising unemployment, which could have a significant bearing on voting patterns.

Calculations by the Unemployment Unit, based on Department of Employment

figures, show that in 170 constituencies, 81 of them Conservative-held, unemployment is higher than it was two years ago, in spite of a national fall in unemployment of 3 per cent in that period.

Unemployment has continued to rise during the past 12 months in 69 constituencies, 31 of them Conservative.

The worst hit constituencies are in Scotland, where the slump in the oil industry has contributed to a recent unemployment picture that is

substantially worse than the national average.

The seat of Kincardine and Deeside, held by Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, the Minister of State for Energy, has experienced a 64 per cent rise in unemployment during the past two years.

The other area where the Conservatives look most vulnerable on the unemployment issue is in the East Midlands, where the jobs total has continued to rise in several Conservative seats.

Poll backs
public
ownership

More people are against further privatization than in favour of it, according to a poll published yesterday.

The poll, conducted by MORI for the Electricity Council, showed that just under 50 per cent of people were in favour of either further nationalization or the Labour Party's concept of social ownership.

Fewer than two out of every five people were in favour of further privatization.

Mr John Lyons, general secretary of the Electrical Power Engineers' Association, claimed that there was more support for nationalization and less for privatization than at any time since 1974.

He added that three separate surveys over the past two years had shown that people wanted the electricity industry to remain in public ownership.

Mr Lyons was speaking for FUSE, the Federation of Unions Supplying Electricity.

Docks issue threatens to oust Tories

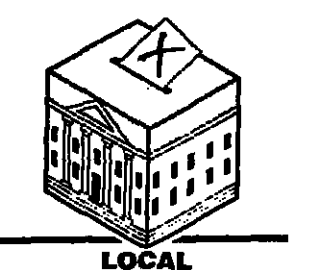
By Martin Fletcher
Political Reporter

The "Falklands factor" helped Conservatives everywhere in the 1983 local elections, but probably nowhere more so than in Plymouth, the city whose Devonport dockyards had done so much to dispatch the task force the previous year.

On Thursday the Conservatives returned to power then must stand for re-election, but this time the dockyards, the biggest in western Europe and Plymouth's largest employer, could prove the factor which ends 21 years of Conservative rule in Plymouth.

Last month the Government handed management of the yards over to private contractors, thereby ending more than three centuries of service to the crown and paving the way for somewhere between 2,000 and 6,000 job losses among the 11,000 workforce. This in a city where unemployment is already 15 per cent.

Many in Plymouth have taken this as a kick in the teeth after the city's sterling Falk-



LOCAL ELECTIONS

lands efforts. They are angry with the Government, and with the apparent lack of opposition of the city's two Conservative MPs, Miss Janet Fookes and Mr Alan Clark, the Minister for Trade.

Thirteen days after the plans were first announced two years ago they replaced 11 of the city's 12 Conservative county council members with Social Democrats and have since returned two Social Democrats instead of Conservatives in city council by-elections.

Mr Tom Savery, Conservative leader of the city council, concedes that the dockyards will probably cost the party seats although the Conservative administration spent many hours and more

than £100,000 fighting the plans. The moot point is how many and to whom.

The Conservatives hold 33 council seats, Labour 24 and the Alliance three. All 60 are being contested. A net loss of three would end outright Conservative control.

Mr Savery believes the Conservatives will cling on. Labour, unaffected by the extreme left, hopes to gain its first council south-west of Bristol.

The Alliance believes it will gain at least the balance of power in Dr David Owen's home base, thereby giving the party a pre-election fillip throughout the promising Alliance territory of the far South-west.

"In all my time as returning officer in Plymouth I have never known such an open election", Mr Andrew Forbes-Watson, the council's chief executive, says.

Mr Savery doubts whether the dockyards will cost too many votes because many in Plymouth privately acknowledge that the yards, long cosseted, were ripe for a shake-up.

He points to the council's

Unions
attack
Kinnock
style

By Roland Rudd

Senior trade unionists who say the Labour leadership has got bogged down in "nonsensical constitutional issues" had their belief confirmed yesterday.

The Sunday Times MORI poll showed six out of 10 trade unionists were dissatisfied with the way Mr Neil Kinnock is doing his job as party leader.

General secretaries from the communist-led Tass, to the right-wing electricians' union are drumming out the same message to Mr Kinnock: forget the side issues, concentrate on the main traditional issues.

Mr John Edmonds, the centrist leader of the General and Municipal Workers, asked: "When it is easier under Thatcher's Britain for workers to be sacked with no protection against unfair dismissal than it was in the Philippines under Marcos, why do more people not know that the Labour Party intends to protect all workers from unfair dismissal from the first minute of his employment?"

His answer is simple, the one which strikes at the heart of the unions' dissatisfaction with Mr Kinnock.

The Labour leadership has spent too much time exploring side issues instead of sticking to the issues trade unionists care about. "Stop talking to 20 people", Mr Edmonds said. "Get on with speaking to the 20 million."

Mr Ron Todd, of the transport workers said: "It keeps ducking the major issues. Important as black sections are we should not allow ourselves to get bogged down in the minor issues."

What trade unionists want to hear about are Labour's proposals for a million new jobs, a minimum wage, protection against unfair dismissal, the improvement to the health and safety protection and restructuring of training programmes.

"Instead all we hear about are the arguments for and against black sections", another union leader said.

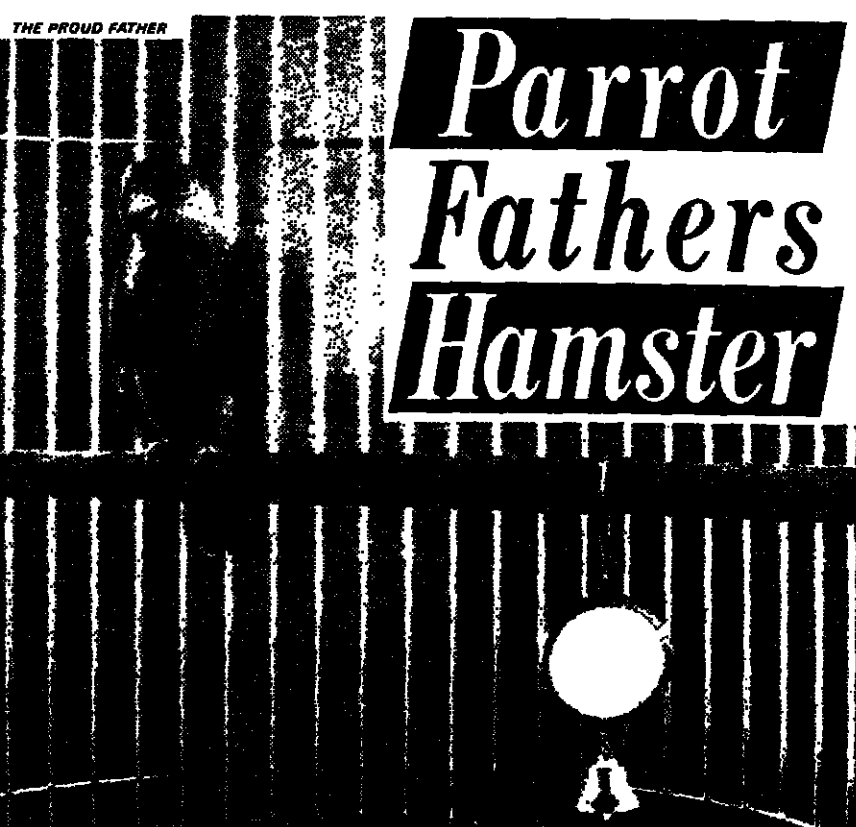
"Somehow we have lost our way. Some of these constitutional issues may be important for the party but are regarded by most working people as totally irrelevant."

The latest MORI poll bears the trade unionists out. Labour's current share of the trade union vote at 38 per cent is only 3 per cent above the Conservatives and still 1 per cent below its appalling 1983 performance.

It is now being taken as axiomatic that if Mr Kinnock cannot get Labour's traditional policies over the din of the controversy on black sections and other side issues more trade unionists will switch to the Alliance and Conservative parties.

Senior trade unionists are to meet Mr John Prescott, Labour spokesman on employment, this week to give him more examples of what they see as the misery of workers who lack employment rights.

Spectrum, page 10

A parrot in Yorkshire has become a
dad with a difference.

Percy the parrot is the proud father of a bouncing 1/2oz golden hamster.

According to his owner, Marilyn Coombs,

Percy has always been an odd bird.

She says his amazing abilities have come from something called

Moosehead which she pours into his drinking bowl.

A local vet was keeping an open mind on the matter, "after all, stranger things have happened, and

WOULD ANYONE INVENT A BEER THAT'S BREWED

AS AN ALE, GOES DOWN LIKE A

LAGER AND COMES FROM CANADA?"

NOTE FAMILY RESEMBLANCE

Extra charge by hospitals 'could affect patient care'

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

The National Association of Health Authorities has criticized teaching districts for refusing to treat patients from other authorities unless they receive extra payments.

In a consultation document due to be issued in the next two weeks, the association says that unilateral cross-charging could affect the care of individual patients needing specialist treatment.

If health authorities did wish to impose charges that should be done only with prior negotiation between authorities, the association says.

"Districts should not unilaterally begin to charge or refuse to treat other patients. The first priority should always be the patient. To stop or bill a district or refuse to treat a patient is not reconcilable with that aim," Mr John Cook, senior research assistant with the association, said.

Cross-charging is at present mainly confined to teaching districts, particularly in London, who claim that they are not sufficiently reimbursed for GP referrals from outside their catchment area.

City and Hackney Health Authority in east London is now refusing to take patients needing kidney stones treated by a lithotripter unless the referring district guarantees payment for the £500 procedure.

It is also charging for treatment for certain stomach disorders at St Bartholomew's Hospital.

Eighty per cent of St Bartholomew's admissions come from referring districts and last week the hospitals announced that it was cutting by 225 a month the number of patients treated, because of a cash crisis.

Lewisham and North Southwark district, also in financial difficulties, is charging patients from outside the district for pacemakers inserted at Guy's Hospital.

Under the present funding system health authorities do not charge each other but are reimbursed for patients from other districts two years in arrears, based on the national

average cost for the case. They are not reimbursed for out-patient or day patient treatment.

Some teaching hospitals have argued that the costs are often well over the national average, but the association says that there is little evidence to support this.

"Some of the costs are lower than the national average which usually balances out the total", Mr Cook said.

While not dismissing the idea of cross-charging, the association says that a centrally imposed internal market, where health authorities could both buy and sell from each other and from the private sector, would be difficult to implement.

The Government is adopting a laissez-faire approach to cross-charging and has so far not intervened.

A psychiatric hospital has launched an internal inquiry after 200 confidential medical records were found near a rubbish dump on the hospital site.

The records, which disclose names and addresses and the clinical and diagnostic conditions of former patients at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital, Shrewsbury, were found loose on a grass verge by the dump.

Mr David Sandbach, the hospital administrator, said that the documents related to psychiatric patients who had been at the hospital between 1951 and 1953.

He said: "The documents should not have been there. We have a policy of not throwing away our documents and they were all locked away in the basement of the main hospital."

Mr Sandbach said that whoever removed the documents had no authorization to do so. The basement was now locked and there was no evidence of a break in, he said. "We are currently carrying out an internal inquiry as to how they got there."

Under present regulations all medical records have to be kept for at least three years and then are usually stored for a further eight years.



Mr David Mercer (left), who is unemployed, starting the "Hands Across Britain" line that included (centre) Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, and ended with Mr Gerry Bothwell (right), unemployed, in Highbury Fields, London.

Concorde flight in near-hit

A Concorde avoided a crash with a second aircraft by just 800 yards, the Civil Aviation Authority disclosed yesterday.

The near-accident happened on April 24 when the aircraft were four minutes flying time from Heathrow, over Woodley, near Reading in Berkshire.

The Concorde, British Airways flight 001 to New York, which was climbing to 8,000 feet, was narrowly missed by a twin-engine Ortel aircraft on a Brynmor Airways scheduled flight from Birmingham to Gatwick.

The incident came after complaints by air traffic controllers at Heathrow and at West Drayton in Middlesex that they were overworked.

Mr Gareth Gimblett, a Berkshire county councillor, said: "There will be a disaster unless something is done, like the one over Los Angeles where there was actually a collision between a light aircraft and a plane. There is an increasing amount of light aircraft movement in this area."

The Civil Aviation Authority said that both planes were under the direction of air traffic controllers. "A full inquiry will be held", a spokesman said.

Accident investigators examining the crash of a Bell helicopter in the North Sea in 1984 with the loss of two crewmen have reported that they cannot discover the cause because the "black box" flight recorder was not fitted (Our Air Correspondent writes).

Helicopters do not carry a flight recorder and the accident investigators have said they want them fitted as a matter of urgency. The CAA is supporting the call and is pressing the electronics industry to devise a suitable fitting.

The investigators say they cannot be certain, but believe that the helicopter's rotor speed dropped sharply as the pilot increased engine power to no avail. The rotor subsequently hit the side of the Bristol craft and it plunged into the sea.

Petrol pipe leaks

Crisis at the pumps feared

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Motorists may face serious disruption to petrol supplies, according to the Petrol Retailers' Association.

It issued its warning after the discovery that the pipe-work under thousands of filling stations is deteriorating.

The association has been told by its members that petrol now being produced with a lower lead content, and the new range of unleaded petrols, may be attacking pipe seals in the lines from underground tanks to the pumps.

Many petrol station operators have noticed the problem when it causes a drop in the pressure to the forecourt pumps.

The seals are made from a plastic compound which was introduced 10 years ago. Experience in Europe showed the oil companies that as unleaded and low lead petrols were introduced, the previous jointing compound could not withstand the corrosive effects of petrol with less added lead.

Filling station owners be-

lieve that the problem has been worsened as petrol now being produced from the more modern refineries is made to tighter specifications with precisely the designed amount of lead added.

Previously petrol was being delivered to a higher quality than actually specified.

New additives designed to improve performance are also being blamed by some retailers.

It is not clear whether the problem is confined to pipework which uses the new sealing or whether it applies to the old jointing compound as well.

The Institute of Petroleum is looking into the problem and the Petroleum Retailers' Association has called for a full investigation.

Mr Bruce Petter, the association's director, said: "Whatever is causing the leakages is also causing alarm among petrol retailers since it threatens a loss of business if

the forecourts have to close down in order that underground storage systems be excavated. "We are urging an industry-wide investigation and will be discussing the problems at a series of meetings throughout the country with our members."

Mr Petter added yesterday that 14 sites have been closed for excavations and pipe joints are being tested, but as yet the cause of the leaks has not been confirmed.

He said: "If it is what we think it is that is causing the problem it could affect 20 per cent of the filling stations in the country."

The association represents 7,000 of Britain's 18,000 filling station operators.

BP said yesterday that its engineers have been aware of problems affecting certain filling stations, but added that all its outlets - BP has about 17 per cent of the total petrol market - have been checked in the past week and no problems found.

First black Grenadier in training

A black recruit is undergoing training to become a Grenadier Guardsman for the first time in the brigade's history, it is believed.

Algernon Stokes, aged 17, is months away from earning the coveted bearskin and from going on royal guard duty.

His recruitment comes after comments attributed to the Prince of Wales last year criticizing the apparent colour bar in the Brigade of Guards.

The Prince, Colonel in Chief of the Welsh Guards, expressed his concern to the Army at the lack of black soldiers at ceremonial occasions.

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, carried out a survey after his intervention, to find out how many people from ethnic minorities were serving in the British Army. The results are still unknown.

Mr Stokes is thought to be the first black person to be trained for the Guards, although there are thought to be several Asian guardsmen.

He was taken on six months ago at his local Army office in Wolverhampton and is now being trained at the Guards' Depot in Pirbright, Surrey.

He has several O levels and so was enlisted as a Junior Leader - the Guards' first stream - and is likely to become a non-commissioned officer.

A Ministry of Defence spokesman refused to say whether the Guards had followed the Prince's advice to recruit from ethnic minorities. He said: "I can only confirm that we have a Guardsman Stokes at Pirbright. We do not have records of their ethnic backgrounds. The Guards have several people from ethnic minorities."

Buckingham Palace refused to comment.

Senior officers in the Grenadier Guards were said to be angry at the publicity.

Police have launched an internal investigation after a young black officer left the force because of what was alleged to be a racist campaign.

Mr Nick Booth, a former police constable of Bradford Moor, Bradford, West Yorkshire, says that the last straw came when he was forced to take part in degrading sexual acts.

He is taking West Yorkshire police to an industrial tribunal claiming constructive dismissal.

West Yorkshire Police last night said they were aware that former constable Booth had made an application to an industrial tribunal alleging constructive dismissal. They added: "It is not possible to comment further at this stage."

Portfolio Gold Student collects £8,000

Mr James Ball, a postgraduate physics student, was the sole winner of the weekly Portfolio Gold dividend of £8,000.

Mr Ball, of south-east London, has been a reader of The Times for about 18 months and has played Portfolio Gold regularly.

He said yesterday he still had no idea how he would spend his prize money.

Nobody claimed the daily £4,000 prize.

Readers can obtain a Portfolio Gold card by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:

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Driver in debt returns to find home emptied

A long-distance lorry driver arrived home from a trip to the Middle East to find his house stripped bare.

Mr John Croxon at first assumed burglars were responsible for breaking down the door and taking his furniture and belongings worth more than £2,000.

But then he discovered council bailiffs had emptied the house because he owed £242 in rates.

Mr Croxon, of Dowding Way, Churchdown, Gloucestershire, said he had overlooked the rates bill and had no idea bailiffs might call while he was on a long trip to the Middle East.

Mr Ron Wheeler, chief executive of Tewkesbury Borough Council, said yesterday: "The bailiffs called four times to warn Mr Croxon they were entitled to seize his possessions."

"But he was never there and eventually they went in to collect property which could be auctioned to recover the debt."

"Any items left over after we have raised the outstanding £242 will be returned to Mr Croxon."

BR to charge for timetables

British Rail is to charge passengers on its Network SouthEast 20p for a copy of its new timetable.

The move is designed to save the network more than £750,000.

British Rail says that many passengers throw the timetables away.

Last year, more than five-and-a-half million were printed but because of the 20p charge, the print run has been cut by more than two million.

Ordeal for yachtsman

A man who sold his house to buy a yacht and go on the voyage of a lifetime was recovering yesterday after he had to abandon ship off north Cornwall and spent eight hours on a life raft.

Mr Ron Taylor, aged 45, from Liverpool, who had been bound for Gibraltar, was found, suffering from hypothermia, by the Padstow lifeboat. His 27ft sloop Mazuma is thought to have sunk.

Lonrho sues Khashoggi

Adnan Khashoggi, the Saudi Arabian financier, is being sued by Lonrho, the international conglomerate, over a loan.

Lonrho is claiming £723,000, and interest at £180 a day. It says in a High Court writ that it lent the money to Mr Khashoggi in October 1985 and that he has broken an agreement to make payments of principal and interest.

'Smart' air ticket is on the way

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

An improved air ticket for the 1990s is being studied by airline chiefs.

The new "hi-tech" card would act as both a ticket and a boarding card, be secure from fraud and allow the passenger to pass through all airport checks by slipping it into a "reading" machine.

The International Air Transport Association is looking at a range of new tickets, known as "smart cards".

"We sell well over 300 million airline tickets a year", a spokesman for the association said yesterday.

"The present technology would enable us to go straight to a magnetic strip ticket but we must now look at whether we should jump a whole technological generation and go straight to a 'smart card' or a laser card."

A "smart card" is made of plastic with a micro-chip embedded into it.

It could be programmed to tell a check-in computer how the ticket was paid for, whether the passenger prefers smoking or non-smoking seats, whether he has any connections to make and it would then be used to pass through customs.

Doubt on hair restorer

Doctors are giving warnings that a new treatment for baldness is expensive and produces satisfactory results in only a small proportion of users.

The lotion, called Regaine, made by Upjohn, has been widely reported as a remedy.

Doctors in London and The Netherlands agree that the drug can induce hair growth. But, writing in The Lancet, they add that a "cosmetically satisfactory result is achieved in only a small proportion of users."

At Upjohn, nobody was available for comment.

Kitchens take lion's share of furniture market

By Teresa Poole, Business Correspondent

The Scots buy less of it, childless couples spend most on it, and the 25-34 age group prefers to assemble it themselves.

These are some of the findings of an analysis of the £3.7 billion furniture market which has discovered that the British bought 3,000,000 armchairs in 1986, tend to opt for beige or brown upholstery and prefer an oval or rectangular shape for kitchen and coffee tables.

Last year kitchen storage took the largest slice of the market with sales worth £1.2 billion, followed by upholstery with £1 billion. The combined sales of beds and bedroom storage reached nearly £900 million.

Furniture spending habits demonstrate both regional and demographic trends. The highest spenders were the 25-44 age and AB social groups who each spent between £270 and £300 on furniture. Childless couples in the 25-34 age range topped the rankings

with average spending of £456. Scottish customers were the lowest spenders with an average of £156 compared with £206 for those in the South-east, while Midlands shoppers spent more on bedroom storage than anywhere else in the UK.

In the bedroom, one third of the 3,850,000 beds, mattresses and headboards bought in 1986 were doubles.

In the kitchen, three-quarters of the total spent on kitchen storage last year was on complete fitted kitchens,

and professionally assembled systems accounted for more than half the purchases of kitchen storage.

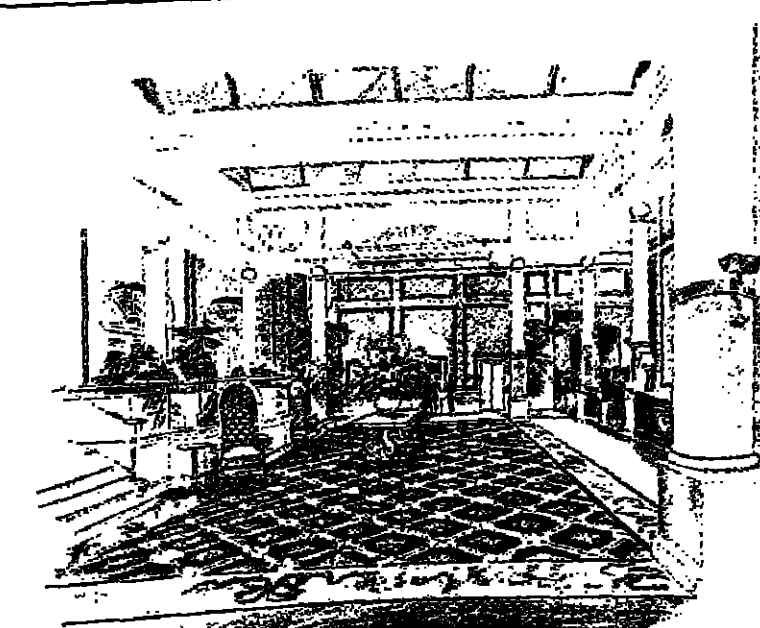
The tables and chairs market was worth £362 million, with beige and brown upholstery accounting for about 45 per cent of sales.

According to the analysis, published by Textile Market Studies, an independent market research company, the retail market leader is MFI with 12 per cent of furniture sales, followed by Harris Queensway at 9 per cent.

The dominant retailer in the upholstery sector is Harris Queensway with 16 per cent of the market.

Retail sales in the other household markets include £1.4 billion on household textiles, £1.3 billion on floor-coverings, £250 million on lighting and £190 million on ceramic tableware and dinnerware.

The TMS survey was based on interviews with 14,500 women in their homes throughout Britain using a statistically weighted sample.



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Holiday Inn
CROWNE PLAZA

MANCHESTER

Chaos predicted this week

Pay disputes by court staff threaten double disruption

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Courts throughout London and the South-east, including the Central Criminal Court and the High Court in the Strand, will face widespread disruption this week when 3,500 court staff are called out on strike over pay claims.

The disruption, which threatens to bring the system to a virtual standstill in some places, will be particularly acute because action is being taken by the unions representing the courts' staff in the same week on two separate, unrelated pay claims.

First the rolling programme of strike action over this year's pay offer by the Society of Civil and Public Servants and the Civil and Public Services

Association hits the South-east region this week, the largest of the circuits administered by the Lord Chancellor's Department.

A two-day stoppage for Thursday and Friday is planned for the region which will hit the Royal Courts of Justice in the Strand, and the Central Criminal Court among a number of other big court centres.

Mr Frank Campbell, National Officer for the CPSA, said: "On the basis of the disruption caused in previous weeks in Leeds, Sheffield, Liverpool and Newcastle it is likely we will effectively stop the running of the courts for these two days".

The unions, who represent court staff including bailiffs, ushers, court clerks and administrators, are taking industrial action over this year's 4.6 per cent pay offer. They want 15 per cent or £20 a week, whichever is the greater.

At the same time as that action hits the South-east, the two unions are intensifying their campaign of strike action by their 800 members employed in the magistrates' court in inner London.

The action is over last year's pay claim, in which the unions' employer, the Committee of Magistrates in the inner London courts, agreed a settlement of an 8 per cent rise. However the Home Office,

the unions' paymaster, agreed to authorize only a 5.96 per cent increase.

In the past two weeks magistrates' court staff have been called out on selective one-day stoppages.

Mr Campbell said: "The response to these one-day strikes has been marvellous. We set out to show management the strength of the members' feelings and to disrupt the running of the courts and we have succeeded in doing both. This week I predict there will be chaos in the three courts targeted for action."

There may also be industrial action next week by lawyers in the crown prosecution service.

The First Division Association, which represents them, is meeting to decide on Wednesday whether to recommend acceptance of a Treasury offer of extra London weighting, backdated to April 1.

The offer of an extra £1,000, £1,500 or £2,000, depending on grade, is on top of the present £1,465 weighting, and is an attempt to counteract the severe shortage of prosecution lawyers in London.



A 1926 steam-driven Sentinel Super Wagon showing old-fashioned staying power yesterday as it pulled a trailer loaded with 40 sacks of coal in the twenty-sixth London to Brighton run organized by the Historic Commercial Vehicle Society. On its way it passed a more modern car, broken down on the A23 at Crawley, West Sussex. (Photograph: Mark Pepper).

Out-of-town shops 'threaten trade'

By a Staff Reporter

Many shopping centres are under threat from "mushrooming" out-of-town developments. Mr Robert Millett, president of the National Chamber of Trade, said yesterday.

His comments came at the chamber's annual meeting in Hull, Humberside, which is due today to debate two

motions aimed at curbing out-of-town developments.

Mr Millett said: "The retail trade is changing beyond recognition. Out-of-town shopping developments are mushrooming everywhere".

He said that floor space for planned peripheral developments increased from 25.3 million sq ft in March 1986 to

61 million sq ft by the end of the year.

"The effect on existing town centre investment is not difficult to imagine", Mr Millett added.

He said that behind the picture of a buoyant retail sector, "sales are more and more concentrated in fewer hands".

Spring sun brightens the year for zoos

By Ruth Gledhill

London Zoo is celebrating its best spring for 15 years with the number of visitors up 160 per cent on April of last year.

But attendances at both London and Whipsnade zoos during the past financial year are 4.3 per cent down on the previous 12 months.

In the first four weeks of April this year, 185,000 visitors flocked through London Zoo gates and another 67,000 visited Whipsnade in Bedfordshire.

That compares with 72,000 in April last year for London Zoo and 18,000 for Whipsnade.

The slight reduction in gate receipts last year has been offset by an increase in revenue from retailing and catering.

The improvement in this year's attendances is because of the timing of the school holidays, the spring weather and the new daily bus service to the zoo from Baker Street and the weekend service from Westminster.

The recovery began shortly after July last year, when "autumnal summer weather" reduced attendances by 11 per cent.

The Zoological Society of London, which runs both zoos, is expected to show comparable and possibly better results than last year's annual report, due out in the autumn. Last year the society made £278,000 in the 15 months to the end of March.

A firm of consultants is to be appointed jointly by the society and the Government to examine ways of raising new capital.

Fifteen firms have been invited to tender.

Two rare hornbills being sold as "banana-eating doves" in a back-street shop in Brunel have been rescued and are now in quarantine at London Zoo.

The 30-inch high black and white Southern Pied Hornbills, seen starving and close to death by Mrs Valerie Andrews, were accepted by London Zoo because of the "exceptional circumstances".

"We would not have taken them if they had come from the wild, Mr Peter Olney, curator of birds, said.

Harry and Jo, aged about three months, are believed to be two of just four of their breed in this country, Mr Olney said.

If the couple, which are believed to have "pair-bonded" successfully, succeed in producing chicks they will be the country's only breeding pair, he added.

Scheme to cut prison population

By a Staff Reporter

More effective liaison between probation officers and social workers could greatly reduce prison overcrowding, according to a report from the Prison Reform Trust, published today.

Mr Stephen Shaw, the trust's director, said yesterday: "Dramatic reductions in the use of imprisonment are possible when voluntary or statutory services effectively target their activities."

"Working together, magistrates, the local authority and a voluntary agency have turned Basingstoke into a custody-free zone so far as juveniles are concerned."

"There seems little reason to believe that this signal achievement could not be matched throughout the country."

The report details six successful schemes. There is an Alternative (The Prison Reform Trust, 59 Caledonian Road, London N1 9BU; £4.95).

Repairs restart on road to airport

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

Motorists using the M1 near Luton will find their return from holiday tomorrow greeted by a resumption of repair works which will last until the autumn and are expected to cause delays.

The works will take place between junctions 9 and 10 under a £5.5 million contract awarded to Balfour Beatty. Preliminary works were completed at the end of March and the works were held back until after the Easter holiday period, but will now continue until September.

The Department of Transport has particularly warned travellers catching planes at Luton airport to allow extra time to make connections. Roadworks until next Monday:

London and South-east

M2/A2 Kent: Lane restrictions at Cobham intersection. M20 Kent: Contraflow between junctions 7 and 8 (Maidstone/A20); lane restrictions and 60mph limits, barrier work between junctions 9 and 11 (Ashford/Hythe).

M11 London: New road layout and reconstruction work, Redbridge roundabout. M25 Essex: Widening work at junction 31 roundabout (Grays), below motorway.

M25 Surrey: Gantry work means lane closures between junctions 7 and 8 (M23/Reigate).

M275 Hampshire: Flyover construction between junction with M27 and Rudmore roundabout, Portsmouth.

M1 Hertfordshire/Bedfordshire: Second stage of roadworks between junctions 9 and 10 (Harpenden/Luton) starts tomorrow. There will be no slip road closures until May 16.

Midlands

M1 Warwickshire: Lane closures in both directions at junction 19 (M6).

M5 Hereford and Worcester: One lane open southbound and two northbound between junctions 5 and 6 (Droitwich/Worcester north). Also southbound entry slip at junction 5 and southbound exit slip at junction 6 closed.

M5 West Midlands: Lane restrictions and some overnight carriageway closures between junctions 4 and 8 (Bromsgrove/M50 South Wales).

A38(M) West Midlands, Aston expressway: Lane restrictions.

North

M63 Construction of M63 flyover at Portwood roundabout, Stockport. Road width reduced to two lanes.

M63 Barton Bridge, Greater Manchester: Widening scheme. Lane restrictions and slip road closures between junctions 1 and 7 (Eccles interchange/A56 Stretford).

Severe delays at times. M6 Lancashire: Resurfacing between junctions 31 and 32 (Preston/M55).

M6 Cumbria: Contraflow between junctions 41 and 42 (Wigton/Carlisle).

M53 Merseyside: Lane closures between junctions 6 and 7, near Hooton.

M56 Cheshire: Roadworks between junctions 7 and 9 (Lymm to Bowden).

M66 Greater Manchester: Resurfacing between junctions 2 and 4 with contraflow (Bury/M62).

Wales and West

M4 Avon: Lane closures eastbound on May 9 and 10 between junctions 19 and 20 (M32/M5). Slip roads closed from M5 on to M4 eastbound with diversions, and only one lane eastbound over the Severn bridge on Saturday and Sunday.

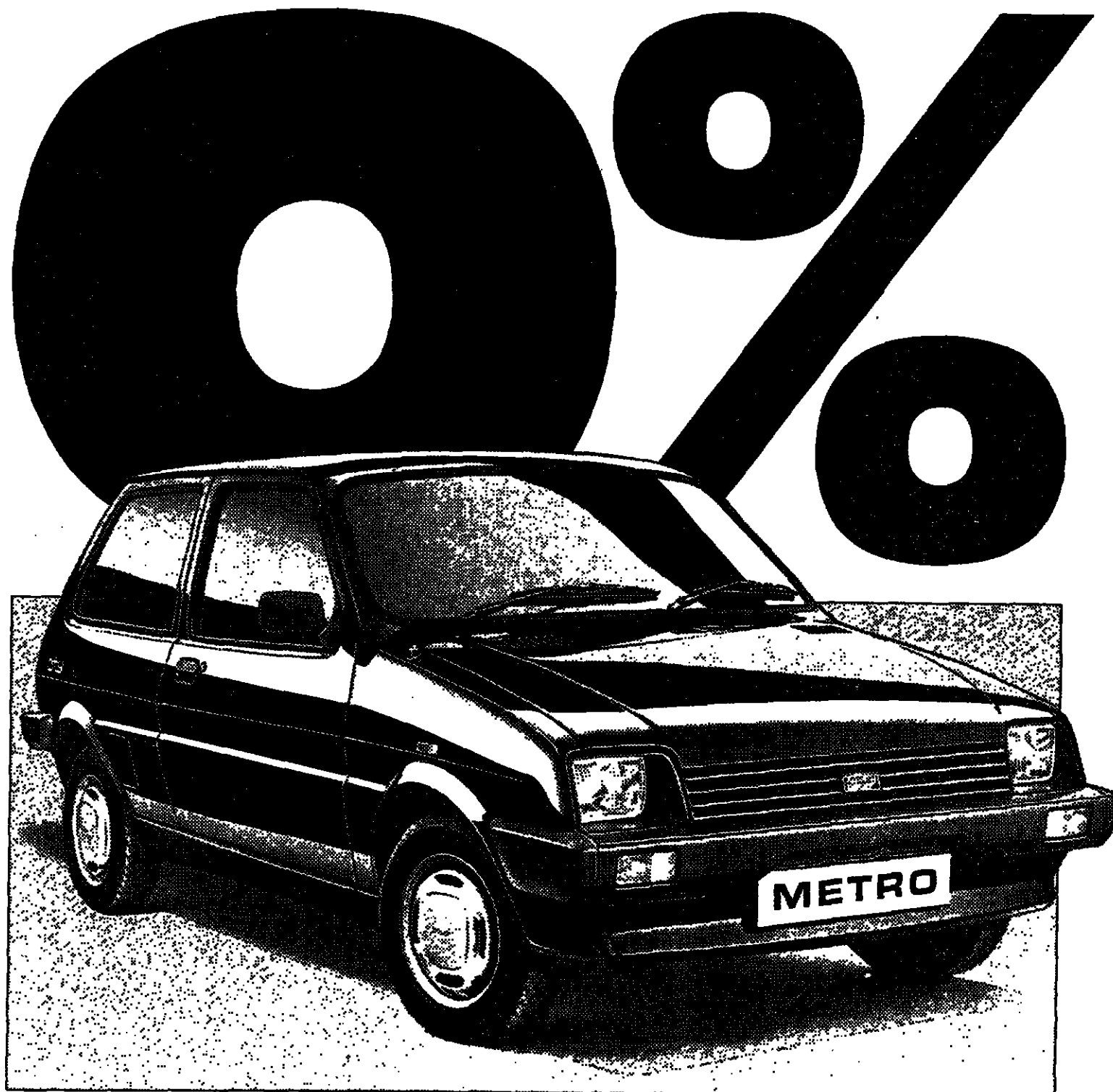
M4 Wales: At junction 49 (Pont Abraham services) outside lane reduced in width on both carriageways.

Scotland

M18 Strathclyde: Outside lane closed in both directions for lighting work between junctions 10 and 12 (Easterhouse/A80); between junction 17 and 15 (Glasgow Kelvinside/Townhead), construction work. Outside lane closed on eastbound carriageway.

M74 Strathclyde: Inside lane closed southbound at junction 6 (A74) for lighting work.

Information compiled and supplied by AA Roadwatch



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Monthly Payments	£ 234.11	£ 259.86
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Total Amount Payable	£4,682.31	£4,991.31
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Amount of Credit	£1,872.72	£1,872.72
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Charge for Credit	£ 0.00	£ 411.84
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Pressure grows over MI5 'plot'

Doubts on Wilson's friends root of security inquiries

By Paul Valley

Charges and counter-charges over an alleged plot within MI5 to undermine the governments of Harold Wilson and Edward Heath have clogged the columns of the British Press in the past seven days.

Controversy has arisen since details were first published of the claims contained in Peter Wright's book, *Spycatcher*, which the Government is seeking to suppress through legal action in Australia.

Some of the reports, such as the one that the Duke of Edinburgh flew a spy helicopter over the Soviet Embassy in London, strain credibility.

Most of the other accounts are speculative or at best circumstantial. But collectively they may well increase the mounting pressure on the Government to hold an inquiry.

Mr Wright's allegations and those of the complementary press reporting centre on a politically motivated and treasonable conspiracy by 30 MI5 officers to force Harold Wilson from office by leaking embarrassing security reports, some fictitious, to right-wing Fleet Street journalists and union officials.

The plot was then allegedly extended to Edward Heath's government in an attempt to subvert its conciliatory policy in Northern Ireland which included plans to abolish Stormont.

The present Government has refused to set up a new inquiry.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher has repeatedly taken refuge in the fact that in 1977 the Callaghan administration said it had conducted "detailed inquiries into the recent allegations about the security service and is satisfied that they do not constitute grounds for lack of confidence in the competence and impartiality of the security service or for instituting a special inquiry".

Although Harold Wilson (now Lord Wilson of Rievaulx) and Sir James Callaghan are remaining silent on the substance of the matter other senior Labour politicians are pressing for a new investigation.

Mr Merlyn Rees, then home secretary, has disclosed that the 1977 investigation was only into the narrow issue of whether Mr Wilson's offices had been bugged.

The wider implications of Mr Wright's allegations were outside the scope of that review, he has said.

Yesterday Lord Glenamara, formerly Mr Edward Short, the deputy leader of the Labour Party, also called for an inquiry.

He said that in the light of Mr Wright's book he was convinced that two burglaries on his flat in London in 1974 were carried out by MI5.

The Prime Minister's principal private secretary, Mr Michael Halls, his personal and political secretary, Lady Falkender, and his office manager, Mr Tony Field, were also burgled, presumably by MI5. Mr Wilson himself was burgled eight times, he was reported as saying.

The origins of the conspiracy are said to lie with an attempt in the early 1960s by right-wing sections of the Labour Party to use the security services to obtain information to discredit individuals on the left of the party.

A committee under the then Mr George Brown is claimed

to have authorized the launch of an MI5 investigation into East European contacts of the left.

Boistered by a series of reports from Soviet-block defectors who made repeated allegations of KGB influence among the Labour left and in particular among the personal friends and political allies of Harold Wilson, MI5 responded enthusiastically.

It was particularly suspicious of Joseph Kagan (later ennobled in Mr Wilson's controversial resignation honours list) who had fled from eastern Europe after the Second World War.

Other suspects are reported to include Rudy Sternberg (the late Lord Plurenden), a

ports seems to have varied wildly.

One unsubstantiated report from the American Central Intelligence Agency, which had also been involved, even suggested that Harold Wilson himself had been a Soviet agent.

Such a claim has now been derided by almost all informed participants but the fact that it was seriously entertained is an indication of the atmosphere in which the conspiracy was said to be conducted.

Some apologists for MI5, while conceding the veracity of some such activity, claim that it was intended not to undermine Mr Wilson but to save him from his own lack of judgement in selecting the company he kept.

Mr Wright was an assistant director of MI5 and at one time the personal consultant to the head of the organization on counter-espionage. But in his early days he was a scientific adviser to the service.

His first contact with the issue was said to have been a visit to Porton Down to investigate the viability of claims that the former Labour leader, Hugh Gaitskill, who had died suddenly, had been assassinated by the KGB to free the leadership post for the left-wing Harold Wilson.

Mr Wilson had already made 19 visits to the Soviet Union, many as the employee of a timber importer after he left the Board of Trade in the Clement Attlee government.

The results were inconclusive and the MI5 investigation which continued was intensified when the prime minister tried to appoint an outsider as head of MI5 instead of the usual inside candidate.

Mr Wright's central allegation is understood to be that in 1973 a small group with direct links to the upper echelons of the Conservative Party approached him requesting leaks from the MI5 files on Harold Wilson and the Labour Party.

They were looking for damaging reports to leak to the media, right-wing trade unionists and Conservative MPs.

Two of these names are still so secret that they do not even appear in the copies of Mr Wright's manuscript which have circulated secretly in Britain.

But it is claimed that the Conservative MP, Mr Airey Neave, who was later a key figure in Mrs Thatcher's election as party leader, was involved along with a number of dissident senior Army officers.

That politically motivated plot is said to have been extended to the subsequent Heath government which, parts of MI5 felt, according to an agent quoted in one newspaper, was "weak, wet and beyond redemption".

The plan was to secure a hard-line right wing government. An attempt was made to smear Mr Heath when MI5 agents tried to persuade a Czech defector to claim that a homosexual Czech organ had been set to "entrap" the Conservative prime minister on a visit to Prague.

The contents of files on Mr Heath's security adviser, Lord Rothschild, also began to be leaked, with the veiled allegation that he too was subject to KGB influence.

It is said that Mr Heath is considering making a public statement.

Crimes and treason claims by Wright

Among the allegations which Mr Peter Wright, author of *Spycatcher*, apparently details, include 23 crimes and 12 acts of treason, are claims that:

● MI5 officers illegally conducted telephone bugging and letter interception.

● Among the victims were said to be Harold Wilson, his secretary, Lady Falkender, his lawyer, Lord Goodman, and his senior policy adviser, Mr Bernard Donoghue.

● An unsuccessful attempt was made to lure a Labour minister, Mr Tony Benn, into a sex scandal and to fabricate documents which indicated that Mr Edward Short had substantial funds in an illicit Swiss bank account.

● MI5 agents infiltrated the Ulster Defence Association and in 1974 fomented a general strike to destroy the Government's new power-sharing scheme.

It also manufactured false bank statements to imply that the Rev Ian Paisley and Mr John Hume, of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, were lining their pockets from party funds.

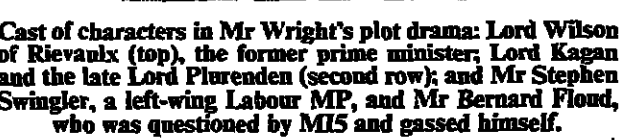
● A compromising MI5 file on the relationship between the Liberal leader, Mr Jeremy Thorpe, and his friend, Mr Norman Scott, was leaked to Conservative Central Office (where Lord Carrington subsequently dismissed it).

● Masonic and "old boy" networks consistently organized cover-ups within the service.

But given the present attitude of Mrs Thatcher, who seems determined that no inquiry will take place, whether any or all of these allegations is warranted may never be known.

businessman with wide contacts in East Germany; Sigmund Sternberg, a Hungarian emigre who made a fortune in scrap metal; Frank Schon, an Austrian-Jewish businessman (also ennobled and who later offered Lord Wilson a place on his payroll); Stephen Swinger, a left-wing Labour MP who Barbara Castle's diaries recorded as "dabbling in East Europe too much"; Niall McDermott, a junior minister who left his wife for a Russian girl in Geneva; John Stonehouse, who was named by a Czech defector in 1969 and who later faked his own suicide, and Bernard Floud, who after MI5 questioning for security clearance as a junior minister gassed himself.

The reliability of such re-



Cast of characters in Mr Wright's plot drama: Lord Wilson of Rievaulx (top), the former prime minister; Lord Kagan and the late Lord Plurenden (second row); and Mr Stephen Swinger, a left-wing Labour MP, and Mr Bernard Floud, who was questioned by MI5 and gassed himself.

European car market: 1

Fierce battle with Japanese over low-cost production

Record sales of 11.5 million cars last year offered Europe's car industry a brief respite from problems caused by its capacity to produce up to two million more cars than it can sell.

But over capacity will not go away and competition in Europe has become fiercer than ever.

The Japanese are the relentless driving force behind the competition, with low-cost production their vital weapon.

Nissan cars are built in Sunderland for at least £200 a car less than British rivals can achieve and, in Japan, companies are redoubling their efforts to cut production costs even further.

The key factors emerging in Europe are:

● The Japanese yen has strengthened against the dollar by 30 per cent in the past 16 months. Honda is preparing for the currency shift to push the yen even higher - 40 per cent above the dollar - and plans to cut production costs accordingly.

● The stronger yen makes the American and British plants established by the Japanese more profitable than originally planned.

Honda's plant in the United States can build cars more cheaply than Japan, but the sharp rise in overseas produc-

Europe, the world's largest car market, faces a daunting challenge because its two biggest obstacles - Japan and currency fluctuations - have become inextricably linked. In the first of two articles, Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent, analyses the gloomy prospects.

tion means Japan has a growing surplus of cars it must export.

With America limiting Japanese imports to 2.3 million for another year, and demand falling in the Asian markets, the large European market is a natural target.

● In Europe, West Germany is most vulnerable to Japanese penetration. The yen has increased in value by only 5 per cent against the Deutschmark, compared with 19 per cent against the pound. Germany is a large, free from import restrictions market for the Japanese.

In 1986, they increased sales by 30 per cent and secured a 15 per cent market share there.

It means European car makers must reduce costs if they are to repel the Japanese competition.

As Nissans and Hondas begin to roll off UK production lines, soon to be sold in Europe as British-built and free from import restrictions, so the pressure on volume car makers becomes fiercer.

Volkswagen already buys components from as far afield as Canada.

Opel, however, is committed to "not walk away from its traditional German suppliers". Mr Ferdinand Beickler, who is in charge of General Motors' European operation, concedes that "at the moment we are not very cost competitive".

A study by Ford discloses that Fiat and Nissan in Sunderland are the lowest cost producers in Europe.

Already Ford, Volkswagen and General Motors build their small cars in Spain, where costs are lower.

However, the cost base in Europe is too high for the viable production of new mini or basic transport cars such as the Citroen 2CV or Fiat 126.

Fiat aims to let the Poles build its Topolino model and Citroen is moving 2CV production to Portugal, where labour costs are equal to those in Korea.

Tomorrow: The "upmarket" battle.

Mention of race 'not irrelevant'

The Press Council has rejected a complaint against a newspaper which mentioned the race of an Indian film actor jailed on drug charges.

The *Daily Telegraph* reported that Anand Roy, aged 29, of Lissenden Grove, Kentish Town, London, was jailed for 12 years after he had tried to sell heroin worth more than £2 million to an undercover police officer at Brent Cross.

The report said that a second man was jailed for nine years on a conspiracy charge with Roy, but a third man was acquitted.

Mr Robert Borzello, of Camden Passage, London, complained that the newspaper reported the race of a man jailed for conspiracy when it was not relevant.

The council's adjudication was: "The fact that a man

jailed for 12 years for conspiracy was a very well-known Indian film actor was relevant to the story of his conviction after an alleged attempt to sell heroin.

"It was not improper of a newspaper reporting the conviction to identify him in this way."

"The complaint against *The Daily Telegraph* is rejected."

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Highlands land-use survey

Tree peril for golden eagles

Britain's golden eagles are menaced by an ever increasing enemy on the ground: too many trees.

Blanket afforestation is judged the main long-term threat in Britain to the golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), one of the largest and most spectacular birds of prey in Europe.

The Nature Conservancy Council has drawn that and other conclusions after a four-year investigation into the impact of land-use changes on the species.

More than 100 breeding pairs, about a quarter of the total nationwide, were studied in the Scottish Highlands and islands.

The British breeding population of the golden eagle, about 420 pairs, is found almost entirely in the Highlands and is of international importance.

Britain has the largest population in western Europe apart from Spain and northern Scandinavia. In recent years one pair of golden eagles has regularly nested on a remote crag in Cumbria.

Food is the main factor in variations of the eagles' density and breeding success, the report says. In the summer when young are being fed, food is mainly mountain hare, rabbit, ptarmigan and red grouse.

However, remains of more unusual food are found in eyries. In one west of Scotland nest there were traces of peregrine falcon, hedgehog, two young foxes and six herring gulls.

In winter, particularly in western Scotland, the eagle is a scavenger favouring supplies of carrion, especially dead sheep and deer.

The investigations showed distinct variations on density and breeding success in the areas studied.

Breeding success did not follow the same pattern, the most successful birds being in the eastern Highlands, with the poorest in the west.

Eagles were much more successful at breeding where medium-sized birds and mammals, such as ptarmigan and hares, were most plentiful.

The report concludes that while the present population is generally healthy, some recent changes are a warning.

One example is that the number of breeding eagles in mid-Ayrshire has declined by more than 30 per cent since the late 1950s.

The main changes in land use over the past 25 years have been a widespread decline in hill sheep farming, extensive increases in afforestation in some areas and a wider introduction of systematic management of red deer by culling.

The report says: "Blanket afforestation typically practised in upland Scotland today effectively excluded not only carrion, but the open country living prey resource as well."

"Both the absolute numbers and the breeding performance of eagles are likely to be depressed in areas where forestry predominates at the expense of other land users."

"Wholesale conversion of upland areas to forestry is probably the most serious long-term threat."

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WORLD SUMMARY

Attempt to oust Gandhi denied

Delhi — President Zail Singh of India denied yesterday that he was trying to use his implied constitutional powers to oust the Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi (Our Correspondent writes). Mr Singh thus ended days of speculation in the press and among politicians that he was considering such a move under Article 75 of Indian Constitution, which says, "The ministers shall hold office during the pleasure of the President."

Mr Zail Singh's statement said: "The President... wishes it to be known in the clearest terms that the said reports and comments are utterly devoid of any basis. He felt they could not remain uncontradicted any longer."

Karmal 'under arrest'

Peking (AP) — Mr Babrak Karmal, the former Afghan leader, has been arrested in Afghanistan and is in prison, China's Xinhua news agency reported yesterday.

It quoted diplomatic sources in Islamabad, Pakistan, as saying that Mr Karmal was sent to Pul-e-Charkhai jail in Kabul, the Afghan capital. Xinhua said the arrest order came from the Revolutionary Council of Afghanistan, which Mr Karmal headed during his almost seven years in power. The reason for the arrest was not known.

Chemical Inquest on riot charges

Iraq has used chemical bombs against its own citizens in areas under the control of Kurdish guerrillas, according to statements by two insurgent leaders (Hazhir Temoorin writes).

In a telephone call from the Iranian border town of Urmia (formerly Rezai), Mr Samay Abdolmohammadi, leader of the Popular Democratic Party of Kurdistan and one of the top three leaders of the long-running insurgency, said that 90 civilians had died so far and large numbers had been wounded.

Inquest on riot

West Berlin (Reuters) — Police here reviewed security tactics yesterday after violent clashes with left-wing youths over the weekend, a government spokesman said.

The footings and burnings occurred as the city prepared to receive foreign dignitaries to celebrate its 750th anniversary. Fifty-one people were arrested and 27 injured. Police said the scale of violence was the worst in years. The Queen and President Reagan are expected to attend ceremonies here within the next six weeks.

Mediation by Fahd

Paris — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia will preside at today's meeting between King Hassan of Morocco and President Benjedid Chadli of Algeria at Oujda on the border separating the countries, it was announced here yesterday (Susan MacDonald writes).

Recent signs have pointed to secret contacts between the rival countries, which have been feuding for the past 30 years over border issues and the Western Sahara problem. King Fahd has recently visited both countries and it is thought that his influence has brought about the meeting.

Poll backs 18 killed in attack strikers

Madrid — In spite of the inconvenience caused to travellers by the wave of rail and airline strikes, 57 per cent of Spaniards support the strikers' battle against the Socialist Government, according to a public opinion poll published in *Diario 16*, the Madrid liberal daily, yesterday (Richard Wigg writes).

Only 22 per cent said that they felt the Government had more right on its side.

Pope's plea to affluent

Bonn — The Pope flew to the Roman Catholic stronghold of Bavaria yesterday and told affluent West Germans to have more heart for the poor, more children and fewer divorces (John England writes).

Addressing 82,000 people at Munich's Olympic Stadium, where he beatified Father Rupert Mayer, a Jesuit persecuted by the Gestapo for his anti-Nazi views, the Pope said: "You live in one of the wealthiest countries on earth. Don't let your possessions make you insensitive to those who live on the edges of society." During the visit police confiscated 3,000 leaflets and a wooden cross from an anti-vivisection group.

The irony of born-again Nixon's arms sermon

It is an irony that as Congress embarks on the most exhaustive inquiry into a President's conduct since Watergate, the man destroyed by those hearings 14 years ago has not only rehabilitated his reputation, but is playing an important part in the biggest foreign policy issue now facing America, arms control.

Mr Richard Nixon is now by far the most influential former President still living, and possibly one of the most politically active after retirement since the Second World War.

He gives frequent speeches, he is invited to China and the Soviet Union to meet their leaders, he reports his initiatives to the White House, he is invited to address Republican groups, he writes articles for the leading newspapers, magazines and foreign policy journals, and, in the most telling irony of all, his advice was sought by President Reagan himself at the darkest days of the Iran crisis when

Mr Reagan seemed to have another Watergate on his hands.

By contrast, Mr Jimmy Carter has been ignored by the present Administration and is discredited by his own Democratic Party. His book on the Middle East has not had the critical impact of Mr Nixon's writings. He has only rarely been asked

Washington View
By Michael Binyon

to comment on television on the Iran crisis, and his recent initiative in meeting President Assad of Syria was disdainfully criticized by Administration officials.

Mr Gerald Ford has fared even worse. The last time the man so often mocked in office for his slips and missteps was in the news when he hosted a conference on humour. Otherwise he is left by the press to his very profitable lecture circuit and his golf.

But Mr Nixon, though still arousing hatred and visceral distrust in many, is now a force to be reckoned with. His latest intervention in the arms control debate was a well-argued argument presented with masterful timing.

Just as the right-wing and many traditional arms control moderates in Congress had begun to voice doubts about Mr Reagan's sudden enthusiasm for the latest sweeping Gorbachov offer, Mr Nixon, playing the elder statesman in tandem with his old mentor Dr Henry Kissinger, made himself the mouthpiece for the doubters. He warned Mr Reagan not to accept the latest Soviet offer without insisting on deep conventional cuts and the scrapping of medium-range missiles in Asia as well as Europe.

His advice was certainly unwelcome in the White House, and several columnists attacked him for having the gall, out of office, to tell those now in charge what to do.

But Mr Nixon has no need to play the politician now. He has no constituency to look to, no interest groups to appease. In his latest intervention on arms control he is able to state some of the facts about negotiating with an experience and bluntness that undermine Mr Reagan's awkward attempt to marry the views of the hardliners and the pragmatists in his Cabinet.

The Strategic Defence Initiative, he said, is never going to protect America's entire population — as Mr Reagan believes. Better, therefore, to admit now that it can at most be used to protect US missile sites, and use it as a bargaining chip to get deep cuts in Soviet offensive weapons.

And Mr Reagan's zero option on medium-range missiles should never have been made, as it set a trap which the Russians have now pushed the West into.

As for Mr Reagan's view of a world without nuclear weapons, this was pure delusion. Nuclear weapons

were here to stay, the former President said, and were essential to Western security.

In this Mr Nixon sounds very like Mrs Thatcher and other European leaders. But it is unwise advice to the White House as it fumbles to find the right response to Moscow. And it is all the more galling when he says with mercenary political honesty that Mr Gorbachov is probably eager to involve President Reagan in at least some arms control agreement so that he does not leave office frustrated and a formidable opponent of any agreement his successor achieves.

Changes in political fortunes make strange alliances in Washington. Mr Nixon — or Kissinger, as he and Dr Kissinger are being called — who was once denounced as a softie by conservative columnists because of détente, is being championed by the right.

Irangate hearings, page 8

Moves on the Middle East chess board

Arafat puts on face of moderation as Habash goes on Syria mission

Palestinian suspicion that Jordan may be planning to abandon the PLO and treat unilaterally with Israel for the return of the occupied West Bank prompted Mr Yasser Arafat to present his more moderate face to the Arab world yesterday.

He dismissed his disagreements with King Hussein and President Mubarak as no more than "minor differences", but added that the Palestine National Council — whose resolutions in Algiers so angered Mr Mubarak and King Hussein — had decided to "turn a new page" in its relations with Syria.

At almost the same time that Mr Arafat was vouchsafing these views in Kuwait, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine — which in Algiers re-established its alliance with Mr Arafat within the PLO — announced in Syria that its leader, Dr George Habash, would be returning to Damascus for talks with President Assad.

Dr Habash will thus become the first of Mr Arafat's new emissaries to Damascus, tasked with the arduous and humbling experience of renewing the PLO's broken relationship with the man who ordered Mr Arafat's deportation from Syria four years ago.

Amid Mr Arafat's convoluted — though typical — attempts to assuage the impatience of all his Arab mentors came news from Amman that King Hussein had suddenly and inexplicably cancelled his scheduled trip to Egypt this weekend.

The Jordanian Government, which had earlier denied Israeli reports that the King and Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Foreign Minister,

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

had agreed on a framework for Arab-Israeli peace talks, could provide no explanation for King Hussein's decision. He had been intending to hold talks with Mr Mubarak and to attend the monumental performance of Verdi's opera *Aida* amid the ancient ruins of Luxor on the Upper Nile.

Palestinian sources in Beirut tried to diminish the importance of the cancellation, suggesting that the King realized he would have little opportunity for sustained dis-



Dr Habash: renewing links with President Assad.

cussions with the Egyptian President when Mr Mubarak was playing host to so many rich, royal and operatic personalities.

This, however, may be wishful thinking. The most likely explanation is that the King needs more time to contemplate his future policy towards the PLO after the embarrassing diplomatic leaks from Israel last week.

The PLO is well aware that the King maintains personal contact with the Israelis and it believes his most recent meeting with Mr Peres took place in London. But it also relies on President Saddam Hussein of

Iraq to exercise an ameliorating influence on the King. It was not by chance, therefore, that Mr Arafat chose to visit Baghdad immediately after the end of the Algiers conference, eliciting from the Baathist ruler Iraq's "unwavering support for the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Arab Palestine people".

Not that many months ago, it would have been King Hussein who uttered such expressions, but now the Jordanians refer only to "the Palestinian people" rather than to the PLO, and have embarked on a campaign of deliberate irritation of Mr Arafat. They have, for example, permitted Mr Atallah Atallah, the leader of the so-called "Corrective Movement" against Mr Arafat within the PLO, to announce his forthcoming visit to Egypt. During the visit Mr Atallah — codenamed Abu Zaim but a figure of insignificance within the PLO which has stripped him of all his positions in the movement — says he hopes he will meet Mr Mubarak.

Thus when Mr Muhammad Khatib, the Jordanian Information Minister, described reports of a Jordanian-Israeli peace agreement as "non-sense" — as he did on Saturday — it does not calm the nervousness of those PLO officials who realize that direct talks between the two nations would be a devastating blow to Mr Arafat and his supporters.

This has only added to the PLO's new-found enthusiasm for good relations with Syria, and President Assad has himself been quick to appreciate the advantages of Palestinian anxiety.

Israel's leaders back off

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Yesterday showed that neither can expect at the moment to win an outright majority.

The crisis is over efforts by Mr Peres, the Labour leader, to arrange an international Middle East peace conference, which Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Foreign Minister, never take place.

For the moment Mr Shamir finds he has been out-manoeuvred on the world stage by Mr Peres, who has managed to persuade the United States to back the conference idea as a way to direct negotiations with Arab countries.

The Prime Minister cannot be happy at having lost America's support on such a crucial issue and knows that floating voters can be expected to swing to Mr Peres since they know he has backing from Washington.

But Mr Shamir still remains adamantly opposed to a conference. If one were called, he said in an interview yesterday with the daily newspaper *Maariv*, "Israel will be in

confrontation with the entire world... we will not attain peace. Maybe we will arrive at some sort of settlement, but not peace. The moment Israel agrees to a conference there will no longer be a single Arab element that will agree to direct negotiations."

Last week ended with Mr Peres declaring that the opportunity for direct talks with another Arab country had never been so close, since he had an understanding with King Hussein of Jordan about how to call the conference and start direct negotiations under its protection.

But the leaking of details of this understanding appears to have frightened off the King, who postponed a planned trip to Egypt on Saturday to meet President Mubarak. Mr Peres was hoping that joint announcement by the two Arab leaders would make it possible for him to win approval in the divided Israeli Cabinet to press ahead with the scheme.



Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister of Israel, left, and President Chaim Herzog praying at Mount Herzl military cemetery yesterday at a Remembrance Day ceremony for war dead.

'Reunited' Jerusalem seen as prize granted by destiny

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Major-General Uzi Narkiss can claim to be the first commander of an organized Jewish Army to conquer Jerusalem since King David. A dapper man in his early thirties, he now makes his triumph against the might of the Jordanian Army 20 years ago sound almost like an accident.

"Our only aim was to defeat Egypt, but destiny wanted something different," he said last week as he toured Ammunition Hill, a park commemorating the place where the toughest fighting for the city took place.

The capture of Jerusalem may not have been the intention of the Israeli Government at the time, but today it is seen as the most important gain of that short, sharp action. How-

From then on it was no longer a Wailing Wall

ever much of the occupied territories Israel doves may be prepared to hand back for peace, only the tiniest number even think of handing over Jerusalem.

The ceremonies to mark the 20th anniversary of the war this year are confined to marking the "reunification" of the city, which is making an effort to publicize its achievements since 1967.

Yesterday, when Israel honoured its war dead, there was a special thought for the 183 soldiers who died in the battle for Jerusalem. Today, when the country celebrates its 39th year of statehood, it can claim for the first time that Jeru-

salem has been its capital for most of the country's existence. This may be disputed in the rest of the world, but Israeli law decrees that it is so.

Mr Teddy Kollek, Mayor since 1965, is in no doubt about it, though his efforts on behalf of the Arab population of the city win him frequent abuse and even death threats.

"The sovereignty of Jerusalem will one day be decided," he likes to say. "But that will be when the Messiah comes." Until then, he argued, it will be in no one's interest to divide the city again, and it must remain under Israeli control.

General Narkiss did his best to ensure that he captured an undamaged city. He admits today that he might have suffered fewer casualties if he had called for more air support. "The Air Force is not always accurate and I did not want to hit anywhere important."

He claims that his best intelligence about Arab intentions during the battle came from Cairo radio, which announced the capture of the tiny Israeli enclave on Mount Scopus before it had even been attacked. This made him realize that he had to defend it.

The general had decided to move close to the walls of the Old City, ready for the political decision to capture it. In his experience, political dithering costs time and he wanted to be able to move immediately.

His paratroops moved down the Mount of Olives and quickly reached the Wailing Wall. "From then on it was no longer a Wailing Wall, but a

wall of hope. I go on hoping that Jerusalem will one day be recognized all over the world as the capital of Israel."

The city's architects have been doing their best to make the capital a geographical fact, even if it is not politically accepted. Four satellite towns accommodate the huge influx that wanted to live in Jerusalem after the war.

In 20 years the population has doubled to 460,000 and its area has tripled. The boundary was drawn on the principle of "maximum area — minimum error", with the intention of keeping a population mix of two-thirds Jews and one-third Arabs.

Father Martel Dubois is a Dominican monk and Israeli citizen. For him, Jerusalem is a paradox as divided city and universal symbol of unity. He remembers trying to hold meetings for reconciliation and found that he could not use Hebrew, because the Arabs saw this as the language of an occupying power, while Israelis saw Arabic as the language

Sovereignty will be decided when the Messiah comes

of terrorism. "In the end, the only way we could pray together for the peace of the whole city was to do that silently."

The Mayor admits to many problems but is not pessimistic. He claims the city is less dangerous than any of the same size in the West, but he expects all the problems will be solved "in two or three hundred years' time."

Dante's remains lost by Florentine library

Florence (Reuters) — The remains of Italy's greatest poet, Dante Alighieri, were reported missing yesterday in two yellowing envelopes at the National Library here — but their disappearance could date back over 50 years, museum officials said.

The envelopes containing the remains of the 14th-century poet and moral philosopher were last put on public display here in 1929.

A landmark in literature, his poem *The Divine Comedy* is a Christian epic inspired by the poet's spiritual love for a childhood friend he called Beatrice. It recounts a journey through Hell, Purgatory and Heaven under the guidance of Beatrice.

Dante's remains had been kept locked in a desk drawer

since 1899 when they were given to the museum by the sculptor Enrico Pazzi, whose statue of the poet stands in the city's Santa Croce church.

Before then the remains had been kept in the nearby city of Ravenna, where Dante died in 1321 after years of exile from his native Florence.

Friars disinterred and hid the remains in 1519 to prevent Florentines from seizing them and some of them eventually passed into Pazzi's hands.

But despite a year-long investigation, the envelopes, now cannot be found. Officials are working on a theory that they may still be locked in a drawer in the vast museum or displaced during removal to different museum premises in 1935 or following a 1966 flood.

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Trail of terror leads north from Trincomalee

From Michael Hamlyn, Trincomalee

To drive north from Trincomalee is a profoundly depressing experience.

Along both sides of the road to the fishing village of Nilaveli, the ruins of people's homes and shops and schools stand silent witness to the terror that four years of ethnic violence have brought to Sri Lanka. Only the Muslim villages appear to be untouched.

Sinhalese fishermen and farmers have been driven from here by Tamil separatist rebels, fighting to set up their own independent state of Eelam. Tamils have been massacred in retaliation by the Sri Lankan security forces, their houses and barns made uninhabitable.

At Andakulam, for example, on the road to China Bay, 16 innocent Sinhalese vil-

lagers were slaughtered by the rebels while they washed their clothes and themselves at the village pond.

Last week, at a refugee camp in Nilaveli itself, 10 young Tamils were dragged off in the middle of the night to an unknown, though widely expected, fate. Local citizens' committee members think the raid was in retaliation for the deaths of Sinhalese civilians in the Habarana bus massacre by Tamil terrorists on Good Friday.

In a Sinhalese refugee camp at Cod Bay, an old woman shows her swollen hand, injured when she fell in a faint on hearing that one of her sons was on the Habarana bus.

"I blame the Government," said her other son, Mr K. D. M. Joseph, a Sinhalese Christian. "They said that for 10 days there should be no army or navy actions (when

the Government ordered a cessation of hostilities to start peace talks). Because of that my brother is dead."

Trincomalee's citizens' committee represents all three communities. The president is a Sinhalese dentist. One joint secretary is a Tamil, one is a Muslim. They make representations to the Government over each report of an atrocity, of missing people, and burnt houses.

They do not pride themselves on any particular achievement in the way of mitigating the outrages of one side or another, but at least the Government cannot say, as it once used to, that it does not know about the behaviour of its security forces.

President Jayawardene told the Associated Press at the weekend that there were fewer atrocities now. "We have court-martials and

commissions of investigation," he said.

But the excesses continue, as Saturday's events in the little village of Pattuthidal show: 16 members of one family were brutally cut down in an act of military revenge after a landmine explosion.

The real problem still lies in the future. There are already attempts to rehabilitate the residents of refugee camps and send them back to their villages. But with incidents like those at Habarana or Pattuthidal, neither side feels any real confidence in their own security.

"The rule of the majority can be achieved in a democracy only with the consent of the minority," said a philologist railway engineer as we drew away from Trincomalee station. "And there is no sign at present of that consent being given by the Tamils."

South Africa: ● Warning to correspondents ● Blacks' election role ● Youth tactics change

Angry minister carpets British TV reporters over coverage

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Foreign television coverage of last week's police action against students in Cape Town and outside the black trade union headquarters in Johannesburg has angered the Government, and it has ordered embassies to send copies of the material broadcast.

The correspondents of both BBC Television and ITN were summoned to a meeting with Mr Stoffel Botha, the Minister of Home Affairs, at the weekend and have been ordered to see him again today.

The Government is appealing against a Natal Supreme Court ruling that state of emergency regulations covering journalistic coverage of unrest situations are invalid. It also holds the view that the Natal judgment is binding only in that province.

A massive advertising blitz has been unleashed on South Africa's white voters in the final countdown to Wednesday's general election.

The country's major Sunday newspapers yesterday each carried full-page advertisements placed by the main parties and the troika of independent candidates led by Dr Denis Worrall.

In an unprecedented move, the first of a series of hard-hitting advertisements placed by extra-parliamentary interests are due to appear today in the country's biggest-selling daily newspaper, the Johannesburg Star. Their decision contrasts completely

with their views expressed at the onset of the three-month-long election campaign that the white parliamentary poll was "irrelevant".

The editor of the Star, Mr Harvey Tyson, said at the weekend: "The advertisements are pouring in... and every printed phrase that has political relevance turns out to be legal dynamite."

"It's acceptable that the Nats (National Party) call the Pops (the official opposition Progressive Federal Party) fellow-travellers. It's fine if the Pops reply with equally exaggerated venom. But if extra-parliamentary interests enter the publishing argument with words about justice and peace, the alarm bells ring in our lawyers' offices."

On Friday the radical Weekly Mail carried election advertisements placed by extra-parliamentary groups, including the Soweto Civic Association which demanded of whites: "By what right do you vote for a Government... which sets its armies against us... which jails our leaders and our children... which bans our meetings and organizations?"

A ruling by the Natal Supreme Court in Durban that the Government's recent ban on organized protest against detention without trial is invalid is subject to appeal and there are different legal interpretations over whether the ban still applies until the outcome of the appeal.

Voteless millions cast shadow over whites-only poll

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South Africa's voteless black millions may not be going to the polls themselves, but they have already cast a long shadow across the campaign for the whites-only elections on Wednesday.

President Botha and his ruling National Party have devoted so much time and energy to attacking the outlawed African National Congress and its leaders that the uninitiated observer could be forgiven for assuming that Mr Nelson Mandela, in Cape

● Long-term risk in portraying ANC as tool of communism ●

Town's Pollsmoor Prison, and Mr Oliver Tambo, in exile in Lusaka, were running as candidates.

During the past few weeks, the Government has taken out full-page advertisements in newspapers across the country to persuade whites that any vote cast for parties or individuals to the left is, in effect, a vote for the ANC and its Moscow-manipulated communist allies.

"Over my dead body would I vote ANC. So why vote PFP?" proclaim the advertisements in reference to the Liberal Progressive Federal Party, which at present holds the most opposition seats in the white House of Assembly and advocates negotiations with the ANC.

Mr Justice Kanne Meyer, of the Grahamstown bench of the Supreme Court, granted the PFP an injunction last Saturday forbidding the Government from further publication of the advertisement. The PFP had complained that it incorrectly quoted Mr Ken Andrew, chairman of the party's federal executive, as saying that it intended to form an alliance with the ANC.

The court's ruling, while a blow to the Government, probably comes too late to undo the damage already done to the PFP. The PFP's leaders, though by no means all its members, believe that the ban on the ANC must be lifted and an attempt made to draw the organization into negotiation, but they have tried to play down this aspect of their policy, knowing that it is not a vote-winner in white politics.

The three former NP supporters running as independents, Dr Denis Worrall, Mr Wynand Malan and Dr Esther Lategan, are portrayed as surrogate Pops, and therefore equally guilty by association of being prepared to "surrender" to the ANC.

PFP candidates have been put on the defensive. Mr Colin Egin and other party leaders notably did not question publicly the need for the recent South African raid into Zambia against alleged ANC targets. Fearing that they would be accused of lack of patriotism or of being "soft" on terrorism.

Young township militants organize for lengthy struggle

By Shaun Johnson



The first president of the clandestine South African Youth Congress, Mr Peter Mokaba, once jailed on Robben Island for training as an ANC guerrilla but released on appeal.

A significant new development in the organization of young black militants has been taking place in township politics in South Africa, obscured by the run-up to Wednesday's whites-only general elections.

The "comrades" have for the past decade often offered the toughest challenges to government law and power, and the strategies of their shadowy and overlapping groupings will be vitally important factors in developments in South African politics.

Under the state of emergency, thousands of youth leaders have been imprisoned; many observers have concluded as a result that the "youth revolt" has been crushed.

But, in fact, a different form of organization is coming into being, and this change was crystallized by the bizarre, clandestine launch of the South African Youth Congress (Sayco), which took place at the end of March. The congress aims to be a national federation, co-ordinating the activities of the many township youth groups in the country.

It claims a membership of half a million and aligns itself with the umbrella opposition group, the United Democratic Front and the "Freedom Charter" of the banned AF-

rican National Congress. It is the biggest movement of organized youth seen in South Africa so far. Its leaders have been dubbed the "Class of '87" - a reference to the "Class of '44" leaders of the Youth League of the ANC, which included Nelson Mandela, Oliver Tambo and Walter Sisulu.

Nowadays such an organization can be born only in secret, but the fact that the launch took place without disruption is evidence that the "comrades" still seem to have some capacity for organized political activity in spite of the repression of the past year.

The organizers spun an intricate web of disinformation to prevent the police from discovering the venue. Its real location was changed three times before the event. Few of the 100-odd delegates had any idea of the actual place and were moved about by marshals in groups of 10.

Journalists chasing rumours fared less well, some ending up in Durban just as the meeting was starting in Cape Town. A few hours later, it was over and the participants dispersed.

Sayco's slogan is the uncompromisingly militant "Freedom or Death: Victory is Certain". It has taken ANC colours and uses a symbol reminiscent of the flagwavers

of the UDF. It is ideologically aligned with the ANC tradition.

The first president is a 25-year-old veteran of Robben Island, Mr Peter Mokaba, who was convicted of undergoing guerrilla training for the ANC but released on appeal after a year's imprisonment.

It promised to back up its demands with concerted political action and there have already been signs of increased youth involvement in the recent Soweto rent boycott and support for the railway strike. At a recent press conference, also held in secret, Mokaba gave the impression that Sayco will wield considerable influence inside the UDF.

Sayco's birth represents an important shift in black opposition tactics towards a "new realism" of long-term action. Strictly speaking, it is a legal organization, in that it has not been banned. It operates virtually underground on the assumption that the leaders of a more open organization would be immediately arrested and detained.

A year ago young black political firebrands were talking of the imminent collapse of white rule; they have now experienced the immense and continuing power of the Government and are settling down for a long haul.

THE TRUE SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE IS STRONGER THAN EVER.

THE 1987 ROLEX AWARDS FOR ENTERPRISE

The Rolex Awards for Enterprise were conceived in 1976 to provide help and encouragement in breaking new ground in the fields of Applied Sciences and Invention, Exploration and Discovery, and the Environment.

Since 1976, Rolex has awarded 20 individuals who have demonstrated a remarkable spirit of enterprise and commitment in their fields of endeavour.

An international panel of judges, in granting the Awards, has helped to bring to fruition many projects that might otherwise not have been realised.

Each of the five current winners, announced in Geneva on 30th April 1987, has received 50,000 Swiss Francs. Also each winner has been presented with a specially inscribed gold Rolex Chronometer, itself a symbol of enterprise and achievement.

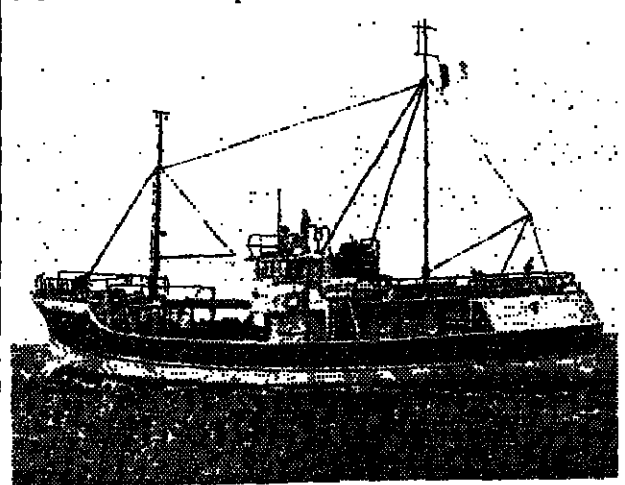
MEDICAL AID FOR THE INDIAN OCEAN ARCHIPELAGOS.

To people cut off by the sea, a medical emergency is an emergency indeed. The islanders of the Maldives archipelago in the Indian Ocean, for example, may have to travel five days by boat to see a doctor.

Jacques Autran and his colleague, a doctor, understood the problem from years of navigating in various archipelagos. Their first step was to set up a *Marins sans Frontières*. Their second was to acquire an appropriate boat. They found it: the *Léviatan*, a motor fishing vessel, bought for her worth as scrap metal.

It took four years to clean, rebuild and equip the *Léviatan*, using volunteers and salvaged materials. She now carries a small operating theatre, a pharmacy with cold storage for vaccines, and a well-equipped laboratory.

Léviatan will anchor off a Maldivian island reef, where doctors and nurses will set up a light dispensary on shore. Local health workers will then be trained to continue the work when the *Léviatan* has sailed on, perhaps to Madagascar or the Mauritian archipelago - wherever island dwellers need Autran's imaginative and humanitarian enterprise.



CREATING SEABIRD COLONIES.

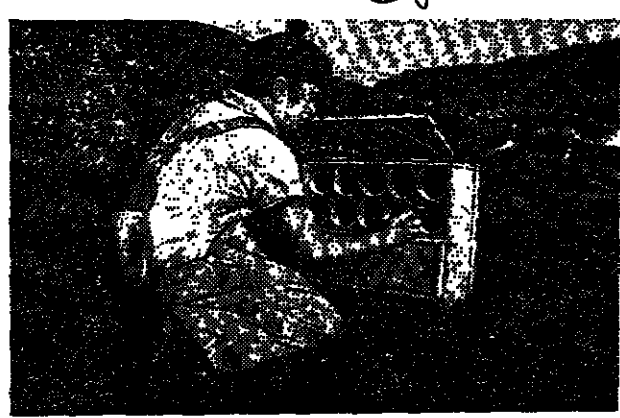
Stephen Kress began his Seabird Colony Creation Project to restore Atlantic puffins to a former breeding site. The puffins, once common in the Gulf of Maine, had been hunted to extinction on certain islands in that region. Kress believed that these birds were the ideal model for developing techniques to restore endangered species.

The key to his plan lay in the tendency of puffins to return to their birthplace to breed (natal site tenacity). This tendency, he later demonstrated, is learned during late chick development but before breeding begins. Could endangered species be lured to safe breeding sites by natal site transfers or attraction to new islands?

Using wooden decoys, low-sided mirror boxes and recorded courtship calls, Kress has recolonised former Atlantic puffin and Arctic tern breeding sites. The project has also worked with Leach's storm-petrel, using recorded courtship calls and artificial petrel burrows.

Kress can now start recovery programmes for endangered species, such as the short-tailed albatross of Japan.

He looks forward to sharing his success with others concerned with disappearing seabird life around the world.



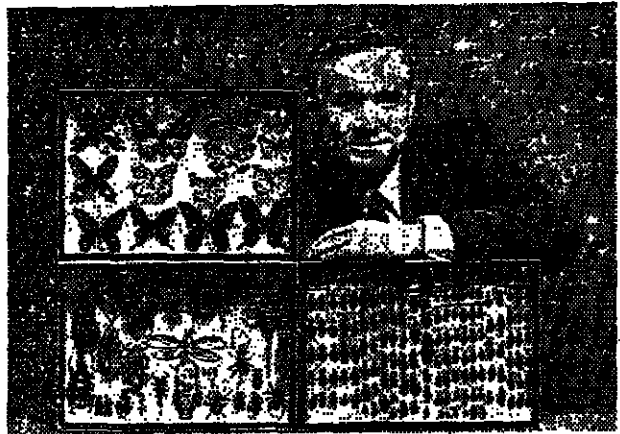
A SYSTEMATIC STUDY OF NEPALESE GROUND BEETLES.

Few entomologists are able to collect their insects from high mountain regions. But Pierre Morvan is a veteran mountain climber who practises wrestling to keep fit. As the number of professional entomologists declines, competent amateurs such as Morvan play an increasingly important role. His achievements are the more remarkable because he finished his schooling at the age of fourteen.

The processes that help to form biological species (speciation) are Morvan's special interest, with particular reference to ground beetles. Speciation is the result of an animal population becoming isolated by some factor, usually geographic in the first place. Once geographically isolated, a population group will develop its own specific characteristics.

For these reasons, the most valuable studies are done where the ecology and topography are highly varied and where there is a species that readily changes its form. Morvan's speciality, the ground beetles (Carabidae), meet these criteria well.

His project is to study a subfamily of the Carabidae that undergoes intense speciation. His chosen site is the southern Himalayas, where the density of geographic isolation factors is high but knowledge of the fauna is still limited.



A BUDDHIST PERSPECTIVE ON NATURE CONSERVATION.

Nancy Nash believes it is not enough to focus on biological problems and technical solutions in response to the world's crisis of disappearing nature. She feels that we are overlooking the cultural and social factors which have not only created the problem but which could also help provide a long-term solution to it.

The need for an environmental ethic caused Nash to consider Buddhist teachings, which seek to instil respect for all forms of life.

Thailand, for example, has a high percentage of Buddhists in its population. Yet the country suffers seriously from deforestation and has been stripped of almost 75 per cent of its vegetation in the last 10 years.

Under Nash's initiative, and with the full co-operation of the Dalai Lama, Buddhist groups are now studying their own scriptures for references to the interdependence of man and nature. Their findings will be used in educational books and films acceptable to the hundreds of millions of Buddhist faithful.

The Thailand project, reaching beyond the influence of governments and secular organisations, will serve as a model for other lands and other faiths.

Nancy Nash (HONG KONG)



EXPLORING SACRED RUINS HIGH IN THE ANDES.

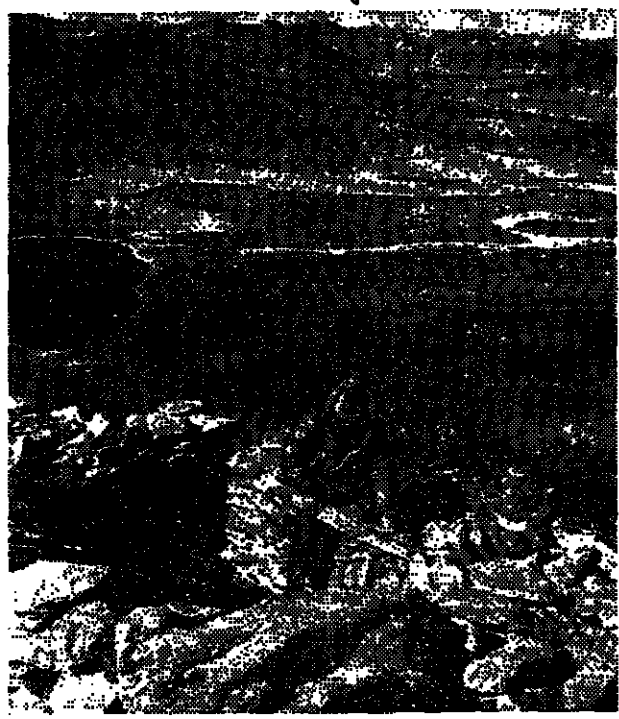
The world's highest ruins by far are found in the southern Andes. Nearly one hundred sites, predating the Spanish invasion of 1532, have been found above 5,200m - with some well-built structures up to 6,700m. They constitute one of the most awesome accomplishments that have survived from ancient times.

Being almost inaccessible, only a few of these sites have been examined by anthropologists. Their origins, distribution and purpose were largely conjectured before Johan Reinhard began work in 1980. He has developed a subfield of anthropology called high-altitude archaeology. Strangely, diving is one of his specialised techniques, for mountain lakes were often perceived as doors into the mountains where the gods dwelt.

Reinhard's findings indicate that mountain gods were believed to control the weather and, consequently, crop and animal fertility. The hypothesis - which his project is designed to test - is that the Incas built the sacred sites to help increase production, thereby strengthening the Inca state and its religion.

Reinhard's pioneering techniques in high altitude archaeology will greatly increase understanding of traditional Andean religious-economic beliefs and ancient religious sites.

Johan Reinhard (PERU)



A book about The Rolex Awards for Enterprise will be available in the spring of 1987, either from bookshops or from the publishers, Van Nostrand Reinhold. It will give full details of the projects of the five Laureates as well as 238 other projects selected from the many submitted, including 32 that were accorded Honourable Mentions.

Further information about The Rolex Awards for Enterprise is available from The Secretariat, The Rolex Awards for Enterprise, PO Box 178, 1211 Geneva 26, Switzerland.



Ex-US envoy hits out as America prepares for Irangate hearings

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Fresh accusations that American officials illegally ordered the former Ambassador to Costa Rica to help the Nicaraguan Contras came at the weekend as Washington prepared itself for the momentous congressional hearings into the Iran-Contra affair, which open tomorrow.

For the next three months special investigating committees of the Senate and House of Representatives will go over every aspect of the scandal, calling at least 50 witnesses, including Cabinet officers, past and present White House and National Security Council (NSC) officials, diplomats, arms dealers, Contra leaders, middlemen, mercenaries, and possibly even President Reagan.

The hearings will focus on the White House role in the affair and on the personal involvement, if any, of Mr Reagan. As in the Watergate hearings 14 years ago, the presidency is on trial. If the nationally televised inquiry implicates Mr Reagan in the diversion of Iran arms profits to the Contras, or simply fails to clear him of all wrongdoing, the revival of his political standing may collapse.

As public interest in the affair is again stimulated, Mr Lewis Tams, who resigned as the US Ambassador to Costa Rica, said yesterday that senior US officials directed him and the station chief of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) to provide logistical support to the Contras and

Americans flying weapons and other supplies.

"Now the people who gave us orders are trying to paint us as running amok," he said. "It's insane."

He accused in particular Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North, the former NSC aide, and Mr Elliott Abrams, an Assistant Secretary of State.

The former ambassador said he never saw a manifest, but believed the cargo flown to the Contras included military equipment.

Major-General Richard Secord, the former Air Force officer at the centre of arrangements to supply the Contras, will be the first witness called. He will be asked to describe for the first time the infrastructure of the clandestine private network that carried arms to the Contras during the two years in which direct US aid was forbidden by Congress.



Mr Walsh: key figures may co-operate without immunity

He is also expected to give details on the sale of arms to Iran, including how the money was handled.

The next witness will be Mr Robert McFarlane, the former NSC adviser who first proposed the Iran initiative to Mr Reagan in the summer of 1985.

Other witnesses will include Rear-Admiral John Poindexter, his successor at the NSC who has already been granted partial immunity and who, at the weekend, gave testimony to the congressional investigators behind closed doors. No details of that hearing were released and none will be.

Meanwhile, Colonel North, who will probably testify next month, said defiantly that he would never plead guilty to anything and had acted in the best interests of the US. Speaking on television, he said he wondered what pressures were brought to bear on Mr Carl Channell, the conservative fund-raiser who pleaded guilty last week to raising funds illegally for the Contras and named him as a co-conspirator.

"This Marine is never going to plead guilty to anything — ever," he said.

Mr Lawrence Walsh, the special Iran prosecutor, said at the weekend that Mr Channell's guilty plea showed that key figures might co-operate without receiving congressional immunity, and he called on the two committees not to grant widespread protection to them.

Stricken ferry yields its bitter harvest of scrap



The deck of a floating raft at Zeebrugge yesterday, piled high with a tangle of smashed vehicles removed by salvage workers from the wreck of the Herald of Free Enterprise. The body of the 183rd victim of the ferry disaster was recovered at the weekend (David Sapsed writes). Smit Tak, the

Dutch salvage firm in charge of the recovery operation, hauled 24 cars, nine lorries and 10 trailers from the vessel on Saturday and a third haul of vehicles was brought in to Zeebrugge late last night. The salvage team has had to remove many of the 100-plus vehicles on board in a bid to

stabilize the vessel. Most of the 34 trucks and 70 cars tipped to the port side of the ship in the March 6 tragedy. When the Herald is back on an even keel — probably towards the end of this week — it will be towed from its temporary berth inside the western mole of Zeebrugge harbour to a nearby

Belgian naval base. At that point, the \$4 million salvage contract will be officially concluded. The British inquiry into the accident resumes in London tomorrow with the ship's master, Captain David Lewry, among those scheduled to give evidence this week.

Libya and the South Pacific

Canberra concern focuses on Vanuatu

From Stephen Taylor, Sydney

Despite the publicity it has generated in the past month, the precise nature of the threat posed by Libya in the South Pacific remains a closely guarded intelligence secret.

Last week, however, it became sufficiently serious to galvanize Australia and New Zealand into hasty consideration of a joint response to be made at the South Pacific Forum conference later this month.

After Friday's secret flight by Mr Bill Hayden, Australia's Foreign Minister, to meet Mr David Lange, the New Zealand Prime Minister, the media here has been filled with — mainly uncorroborated — speculation about just what the Gaddafi regime is up to.

Most attention is focused on Vanuatu, where Libya proposes to establish a diplomatic post and where some sections of the ruling party have connections with Tripoli.

Canberra's handling of the matter has done nothing to diminish the intensity of speculation. Mr Hayden tried without success to make light of his pre-dawn flight to New Zealand, saying it had been his only opportunity to meet Mr Lange before the South Pacific Forum conference.

Over the past month Mr

Hawke's Government has missed no opportunity to make plain its concern that Libya intends mischief in the South Pacific.

In an interview with *The Times* last month, Mr Hayden said that, although there was no "concrete evidence", Australian intelligence reports gave worrying indications that Tripoli was offering military training to secessionist movements in New Caledonia and Irian Jaya, the Indonesian half of the island of New Guinea. It had previously emerged that, although it has no commercial interests in the South Pacific, Libya wants to set up a People's Bureau on Vanuatu.

Last week, in an address to the Foreign Correspondents' Association of Australia, Mr Hayden said that Canberra blamed France for creating a climate of instability in New Caledonia and Vanuatu by its handling of legitimate independence movements.

The tidbits might not in the ordinary course of events have attracted such intense interest, but the Gaddafi spectre has loomed particularly large in Australian minds because of suggestions that Libya has alighted on radical Aborigines as another discredited regional minority. The recent attendance at a Tripoli conference on "colonialism and racism" of an Aboriginal activist — who returned home claiming that Libya wanted to help Australia's original inhabitants in their plight — provoked alarm and outrage among many whites.

For the time being, however, the main attention is on the small island nations in the South Pacific, which Mr Hayden believes would be vulnerable.

Leaders of New Caledonia's umbrella separatist group, the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS), yesterday rejected Libyan aid in their bid for independence from France (Reuters reports from Noumea). A Front spokesman said statements by Mr Yann Celene Ugeux, head of a small radical Kanak party, welcoming Libyan aid and calling for armed struggle, "commit only himself".

able to Libyan destabilization techniques.

One uncorroborated report from Canberra at the weekend stated that the Government thought that pro-Libyan ministers in Vanuatu are in the ascendancy because Father Walter Lini, the Prime Minister, was immobilized by a stroke earlier this year.

It claimed that groups in Vanuatu had been trained in "paramilitary and crowd-manipulation techniques".

Another report, also uncorroborated, said that small supplies of arms and ammunition have been moved to Vanuatu. The line of concern here is that Vanuatu could become a training ground for secessionist guerrillas of other Melanesian people.

In New Caledonia, for example, Kanak nationalists are seeking independence from France, while in Irian Jaya guerrillas of a group known as the OPM are waging a low-intensity insurgency against Indonesian forces.

This latter conflict is of particular worry to Australia, which retains an abiding interest in the defence of neighbouring Papua New Guinea.

● JAKART: Mr Bill Hayden, the Australian Foreign Minister, said yesterday that he wants to consult Indonesia about new diplomatic moves on Cambodia following the Soviet Foreign Minister's tour of South-East Asia, Indochina and Australia (Reuters reports).

He told reporters on his arrival for a brief visit that he would also discuss South Pacific affairs and Indonesia's recent elections during talks today with President Suharto and Mr Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, the Foreign Minister.

Leading article, page 13

Eight die in Gaza van crash

Aviv (Reuters) — Eight people were killed and 11 injured when a bus hit a van belonging to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency near the Palestinian town of Khan Yunis in the occupied Gaza Strip.

Police said the bus rammed into the rear of the van at an intersection, killing eight passengers in the UN vehicle. Their names were not immediately released.

In another incident in the area, a firebomb was thrown at an Israeli car in Gaza City, burning the vehicle but causing no casualties.

Nine drown

Kisumu, Kenya (Reuters) — Nine people have drowned in floods over the last three days after heavy rains hit central and western Kenya. The dead include four children swept away by a flooded river in the Nyakach district, near Lake Victoria.

Malawi poll

Blantyre (AFP) — Malawi will hold general elections on May 27 and 28, when 112 parliamentary seats, 11 more than in the previous 1983 elections, are to be filled. All from the Malawi Congress Party of President-for-Life Banda, the only legal party in Malawi.

Fast over

Washington (Reuters) — The American anti-nuclear activist, Mr Charles Hyder, who staged a seven-month hunger strike opposite the White House, has ended the fast and says he will run for President.

Notes fraud

Genoa (Reuters) — Police in northern Italy have arrested 76 people in an anti-forgery operation and netted fake bank notes with a face value of more than £4 million.

MiGs to India

Delhi (AP) — The Soviet Union has delivered two squadrons of MiG 29 fighter jets to India several months ahead of schedule.

Stamp value

Oslo — A block of nine of Norway's first stamps, the so-called "four-shilling Oscar" dating from the last century, fetched a record 787,500 kroner (about £70,000) at the weekend.

Soviet phone taps enrage Congress

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington

As controversy grows over congressional calls to demolish the new "bagged" US Embassy in Moscow, American intelligence sources were quoted at the weekend as saying that the Soviet Union is already extensively monitoring phone calls from US government offices in Washington.

The *New York Times*, citing intelligence authorities, said the Russians used embassy homes on high ground and diplomatic missions of other communist countries to intercept microwave conversations, and long-distance telephone traffic from government offices.

US officials are concerned that when the Russians occupy their new embassy site on high ground in north-west Wash-

ington they will have a clear view of the Pentagon, the White House, the State Department and the Naval Security Station, a centre for secret naval communications.

Soviet eavesdropping has been widely publicized for several years, and government officials are asked not to use the telephone for sensitive conversations. But congressional pressure is now rising to prevent the Russians from occupying the Mount Alto site and to rebuild their embassy elsewhere.

The present Soviet Embassy is only a few blocks from the White House, but interference from surrounding tall buildings makes this site less useful for monitoring telephone conversations.

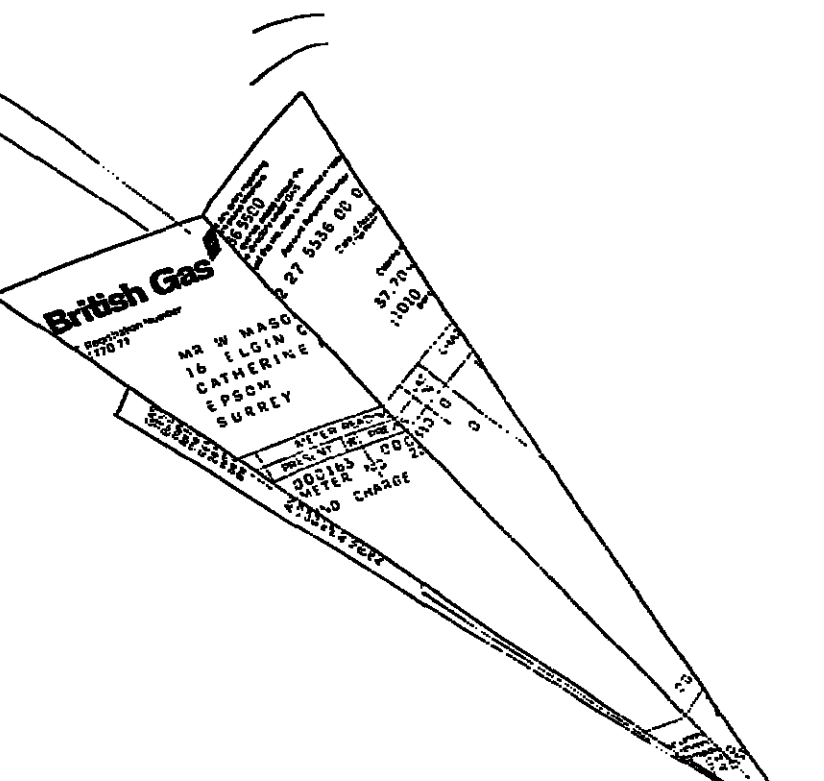
The *New York Times* said

Soviet listening posts included an East German residence on a ridge across the Potomac river from the capital, and the Cuban interests section of the Czechoslovak Embassy, about two miles from the White House. The Russians are also said to use residential compounds for diplomats in New York and the Soviet Consulate in San Francisco for listening in.

Meanwhile, the State Department has said it will wait for the completion of a high-level study before deciding whether to knock down the new US Embassy in Moscow.

Congress is expected to cut off funds for the building unless the Government can prove that listening devices have been neutralized and the building is secure.

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Greens to get tough with SPD after hardliners gain control of party

From John England, Bonn

Hardline "fundamentalists" who reject coalitions with the Social Democrats (SPD) now control the leadership of West Germany's anti-nuclear, anti-industry Greens party, whose three-day annual congress ended in Duisburg yesterday.

The Fundis, as they are known in the party, emerged the clear victors in the election of a new 11-strong national executive with eight seats.

The "realists", or Realsos, who favour co-operation with the SPD, finished with three seats.

The Fundis, who had a majority of only one seat on the last executive, also secured the offices of the Greens' three spokespersons, two of them women, which are the equivalent to the posts of chairman in other political parties.

The Greens are now expected to take a tougher line

towards the troubled SPD, and refuse to consider alliances with the party in four more state elections due this year following the defeat of a so-called Red-Green coalition in Hesse last month.

Two of the polls, in Hamburg and Rhineland-Palatinate, will be held on May 17.

The congress also hosted a battle between the single feminists, who have the dominant voice in the party on women's rights issues, and a new mothers' group, which demanded its own say on family affairs.

A "mothers' manifesto" demanded the setting up of an independent working group to cover its needs, but the feminists overwhelmingly outvoted it. The mothers were forced to accept a compromise of a sub-group within the Greens' women's organization.

The congress, however, was united in calling for a form of public ownership short of nationalization of the country's crisis-ridden steel industry; a shorter working week; publication of all industrial firms' data; and the forming of job-creating societies within the firms.

The Greens were also at one in calling on West Germans to boycott a national census on May 25, the first since 1970, which the party says is state snooping.

People who refuse to answer the census-takers' questions will face fines of up to £3,300.

Bonn City Council has already fined the 44 Greens MPs in the Bundestag £2,800 each for displaying a boycott banner outside Parliament.

The congress, however, voted overwhelmingly to pursue the party's boycott policy.

Political crisis in Brazil

Pressure on Sarney for early election

From Mac Margolis, Rio de Janeiro

This time last year President Sarney of Brazil seemed well on his way to latter-day sainthood. The President with the broom moustache and a flair for poetry rode the crest of an all-but-magical economic reform, the Cruzado Plan, to the top of opinion polls.

There were Sarney posters and Sarney dolls, moustache-tied Sarney carnival masks.

His Finance Minister was, unusually, a national hero, showered with fan mail. The President, who landed in power accidentally after a popular President-elect died two years ago, was suddenly blinking in the limelight. Once thought to be lucky to survive a transition mandate, Senor Sarney looked last year to be a certain candidate for a full six-year term, and possibly reelection.

A year later Senor Sarney is blinking again, but like a man who still does not know what hit him. His Cruzado Plan expired, a casualty of populist politics, palace infighting and mismanagement. His bullish economy, which expanded by 8 per cent last

year, is on the edge of recession. The once robust, billion-dollar monthly trade surplus is now, even after two months of moratorium, barely out of the red and nowhere near healthy enough to allow resumption of debt repayments.

Senor Sarney's strong-arm Finance Minister, Senor Dilton Farnaz, quit last week amid criticism from businessmen at home and bankers abroad. The President's behind-stage manoeuvres to replace him with a novice politician, deemed by the "cardinals" of Brazil's hallowed political halls to be lacking in pure party pedigree, provoked a near-rupture between the President and the leader of the majority Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB).

As if that were not enough, Senor Sarney's ensuing shuffle of ministers alienated a bloc of seven governors from his own north-east region. One of them, the Pernambuco state governor, Senor Miguel Arraes, broke publicly with Senor Sarney, and denounced the austerity plans of



President Sarney: damaged by economic setbacks

a new Finance Minister as "the road to recession".

Not surprisingly, Senor Sarney's televised Labour Day address last Friday night had more than a whiff of nostalgia. Like a football coach in a game's deciding minutes, the President leaned towards the camera, balled his fists and waxed sincere: "If we all sit down together, we can return to the good old days of Cruzado Plan."

"Believe," the President implored viewers, "believe that the Government can do a lot. But it can't do everything." He

appealed for a truce and the building of "national understanding" to halt the "endless race of high inflation rates".

But Brazilians seem disposed neither to sit down together nor live through another Cruzado Plan. A poll published on Saturday by the *Folha de São Paulo* showed that 72 per cent of respondents want presidential elections by November 1988, two years before schedule. A startling 44 per cent want Senor Sarney replaced immediately. His poor showing "is fruit of a whole sequence of indecisions, errors and disasters in his administration", said the *Folha* editorial.

The prospect of imminent elections, so remote until a few months ago, seems a certainty now.

The Sarney dolls are gone. There are now irrelevant stickers and Sarney jokes.

The once ambitious Senor Sarney, who hoped for six years to propel Brazil into the ranks of developed nations by the next century, may be remembered instead as the man who went at the right time.

Economic changes, page 19

مكتبة الامم المتحدة

DISCO ABO

سكرا من الاجل

SPECTRUM 1



Photographs by Graham Wood

All at sea on the ocean wave

All is not quite ship-shape on board the QE2. As she sails across the Atlantic on her first voyage after refitting, Bryan Appleyard samples the international cuisine and waits for the Jacuzzi to reopen

The man sitting at the bar has just ordered a pink gin. The north Atlantic is slipping smoothly by. The great ship is making more than 30 knots and New York is preparing a "gala" welcome for the new QE2. For a brief moment you might almost say: "This is the life". But the vast steel and aluminium whale is still humming with discontent.

It is impossible to find an American who does not feel that Cunard has violated his constitutional rights, while the Brits just murmur bitterly into the ear of every passing officer. Orange-overalled workmen of every conceivable nationality are constantly removing panels to fiddle with pipes and wires, and the condition of the lowest-class decks, in the bowels of the ship, has to be seen to be believed. By Saturday, Cunard had bowed to the inevitable and given everybody on the voyage a 40 per cent refund on their fares, promising more for particularly bad cases.

Captain Lawrence Portet, an immensely tall Bernie Winters lookalike, floats on this sea of unease with log-like calm. He beams at one and all and absorbs complaints with an eerie air of unconcern. His sense of humour seems a touch awry — on two occasions he has spoken of an "unforgettable" voyage and looked baffled at the ensuing jeers and sardonic applause.

Meanwhile, his staff in the purser's office have gone glassy-eyed from listening to the passengers. On the first night they had even been asked for blankets, so that the cabinless could sleep in the corridors, and for three days the stream of demands for refunds on the fare was unceasing. The most common complaints concern poor, unfinished cabins or the absence of any of the heavily promoted facilities.

Yet there is a persistent tension between what life is actually like and what it is supposed to be like. On boarding, you are welcomed into a deep blue room in which a man plays a Hawaiian guitar and girls offer flowers. I had not taken too seriously the passport-control man who had muttered, after staring bleakly at my profession: "You'll find lots to write about in there."

The first-class cabin seemed fine — a top-class hotel with the usually jiffy "international" taste. But the video cassette recorder that should

have been with my television was missing and there was no plug in the bath. Not to worry — Geoffrey, the cabin steward, calmly fielded the problem and shimmered off to his cubby-hole.

A stray radio officer I ran into in the "Yacht Club" bar winced when I called the QE2 a boat — "Er... it's a ship, sir" — and grew a little defensive when asked about post-refit problems.

Anyway, if you are thinking of taking the boat across the herring pond this summer, here are a few fashion hints. To feel truly "one of the crowd" you need to be old (very old), American, wear clashing cruise wear and sinister-looking sneakers. A "must" accessory is a video camera — preferably JVC — and, for the men, a toupee. Really rotten rugs are a sure sign of the wealth on board.

If you happen to be young, you must be sporty. And that means you have to cope with Daryl from Johannesburg and join the Golden Door Club. This is some kind of fitness programme that lasts through the whole voyage and would, it is said, cost you \$3,000 if you bought it ashore. Also, this ship does not have a deck; it has a "jogging track" upon which you are encouraged to do "miles at sea". Every morning you can stare aghast at people lurching about outside, looking worse by the hour.

There is even a Golden Door Diet recommended in the restaurants. This consists — surprise, surprise — of steamed fish, raw vegetables and so on. Everybody else stuffs themselves silly from morning till night on the lush international cuisine which, to be honest, is no better than okay.

All this drives home one big point: this ship is about as British as the Statue of Liberty. Prices are all in dollars, you "meet with" people, and it is all the staff can do to choke back the words "Have a nice day". And no scene could be more American than the mail-order clothes feeding the banks of fruit machines with the quarters earned by the coronaries of their late husbands.

The entertainment provided is a bizarre mixture. For the minimalist, there is Channel 4 on the ship's television. This is a picture taken by a camera on the ship's bridge. It consists of the sea, with a small fragment of the QE2's bow

at the bottom of the screen. Elsewhere there are the usual James Bond films. The big-screen cinema had daily showings, each of which was cancelled as the staff failed to get anywhere with a projector that had mysteriously been hit by a hammer.

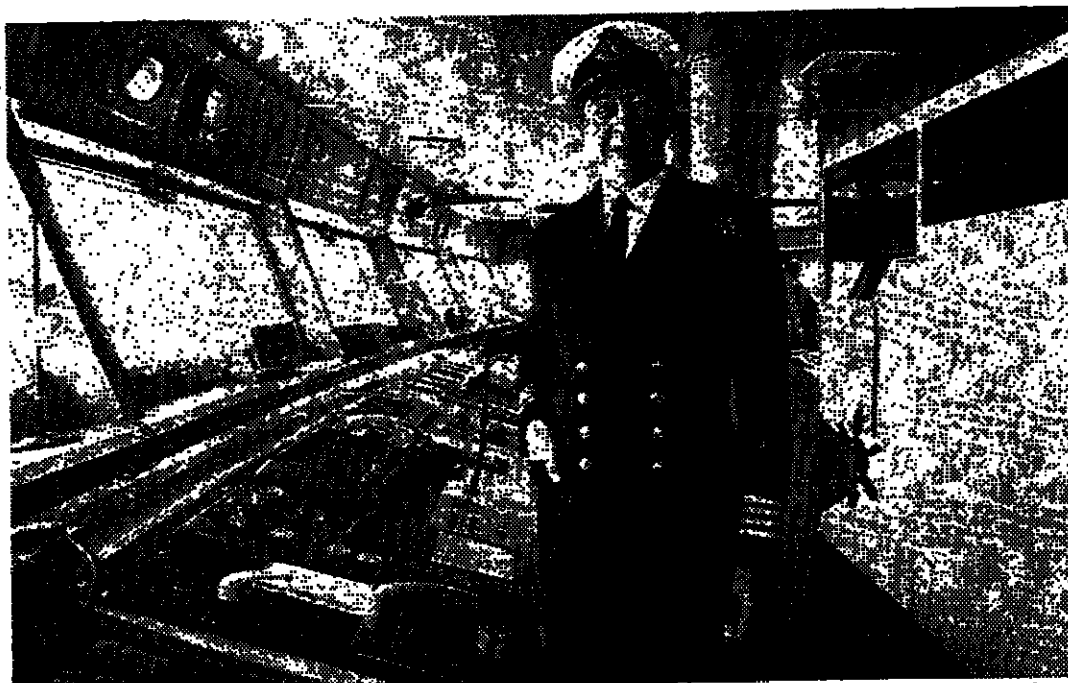
And there are lectures. If you want a retirement spent cruising the world, this is the game to get into. John Rich, an American journalist, travels the globe first-class, with his wife, by telling the serried ranks of rugs and blue rines about his days in Japan. The library on board runs quizzes, but, in the confusion of the first day, nobody bothered to enter. You frequently lurch into painted faces above nylon coats, giving beauty classes to ladies of an age when their thoughts should be turned to higher things.

Evenings have a sort of uneasy raffishness about them, with ageing "international superstar" Jack Jones or the Jackie Sprague Orchestra, and even singles nights.

The trick, presumably, is to overlay the proceedings with that insistent eroticism that the big hotels all seem to manage. If wasn't working. Apart from anything else, there was no laundry or valet service operating, and it's difficult to be insistently erotic when you're crumpled and odour-conscious.

By Thursday, Cunard had

The video was missing and there was no plug in the bath



Captain of the cruise: Lawrence Portet on the bridge, ready with a quip for every occasion

who couldn't grasp the word lobster however loudly you shouted it.

Sybil and James Bimbi who are on the trip to celebrate their silver wedding, are still recovering from their first night. They had demanded a cabin change. Sybil was sitting on the bed in her dressing gown, wondering if they would get to meet the captain, when suddenly there was Cap'n Larry himself, beaming on the bed beside her and saying he would be taking their cabin. Cunard Commodore Douglas Ridley had requisitioned Larry's pad.

The daily programme entitled "The leisure world of QE2" had a quote for the day. It was from Carl Sagan: "Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known." The lucky discoverer on this occasion was the inhabitant of cabin 1,050. Another pipe had burst, flooding his room. That was at lunch. By tea a workman was just finishing off putting down a new carpet, while 1,050's suits hung forlornly above the wreckage.

American ladies were getting into the swing of things by this stage, rushing up to your reporter to deliver such "quotes". In fact, a general wave of "We're all in this together" feeling had swept over the ship. Crew and passengers were moaning together, while sunshine and an exceptionally calm sea had begun to introduce a degree of euphoria. Even the joke about *Fawlty Towers* afloat was now being cracked by staff members as well.

Meanwhile the leisure world of QE2 crackled along as normal — the special masonic meeting of one day had been replaced by a get-together of Kiwanis and Rotarians in the mid-ships bar, one of the few parts of the ship not actually changed in the re-fit. John Bun, the cruise director, said the old Cunard groupies — of whom there are quite a few on this voyage — regarded this bar as the place for people with "maximum cruise credibility".

The Golden Door had moved on from their series of Chairman Mao exercises to demanding that we all "get electrified in the aerobics circuit".

A registered chiropodist/podiatrist was on hand to advise on footwear and we were all waiting to hear the "piano styling" of Arline Daniels. The radio room was jammed with telexes, presumably as a result of the financial planning and successful portfolio

management lecture which had been given by Jim Turner in the morning.

Ever amiable, but by now distinctly weary, Alan Kennedy dropped in to my cabin to confess he knew nothing of the flood in 1,050. Pipes, he kept explaining, often burst after a long period out of use. He also explained why the Jacuzzis were not working — more pipe work. He then exited to take more calls from the world's Press.

Normal sea-borne crises were being dealt with. These days, it seems, if you are sea-sick they give you a shot costing \$10. It puts you to sleep for two hours and you wake up feeling fine. Even if you are at sea for 10 days afterwards, you continue feeling fine. One was tempted to have the shot, sick or not. But people coming on these voyages should bear in mind the implications of sea sickness — it may last five days, destroying the point of spending £700 to £4,500 for the crossing.

One final, unremarked hassle is the time change. In New York time difference, the ship puts back its clock an hour a day. Forget to do this, and you are looking for breakfast an hour early. But it also makes the days an hour longer, producing a curious cumulative affect of ship-drug. By the last day, you are eating your lunch when you would have been eating your dinner on day one.

But when you look at this ship simply as a ship, you can almost forgive everything. Walking round the jogging track early in the morning is sublime, as long as the Golden Door fanatics are chained to their empty Jacuzzis. The best trick is to step up below the bridge where it says "DANGER — HIGH WINDS". On a really blowy day you are pinned to the railing, clinging on for dear life and feeling that Jack Jones, the lectures on tax management and all the over-upholstered nonsense indoors, are beside the point.

But then you wander back in, and there's Cap'n Larry on the Tannoy: "There are teams of skilled workers working round the clock..." Buried deep beneath all the chaos and bad taste, there is probably an experience worth having here. All in all, it's not a bad boat — sorry, ship. Just a rather silly one.

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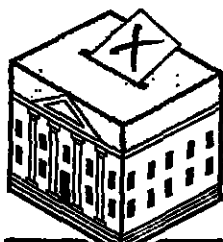
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Voices in the wilderness



LOCAL ELECTIONS

The local polls this Thursday may determine the timing of a general election — yet to the few remaining independent candidates, national politics still take second place. Paul Vallety catalogues a threatened species

For the past two weeks Mrs Brenda Parsons's woolly sheepdog has been perplexed by the changed nature of his daily outings. For a start they are around the hard pavements of Bude rather than along the wiry grass of the chalk downs which surround the little Cornish seaside town. And though they are longer than usual they are now enormously disoriented as his mistress stops to engage seemingly every passer-by in brief conversation.

Mrs Parsons is standing for election as an independent to both the local parish and district councils on Thursday. For the independent, a slowly disappearing breed in the catalogue of British political animals, not a second of the day can be wasted in the run-up to voting. Without a party machine to spread the electioneering, even walking the dog becomes a political activity.

There are as many reasons for standing as an independent as there are candidates who, by self-definition, are too odd a shape to fit neatly into the three-party jigsaw. But David Denver, of the politics department at the University of Lancaster, who has made a study of the declining fortunes of the independent in British politics, divides them into three broad categories: former party members who have fallen out with their colleagues, candidates in areas where it is still thought to be somewhat improper to display a national allegiance at a local level, and individuals who are motivated almost entirely by a single, often parochial, issue.

Independent by spirit as well as by political category, Mrs Parsons defies such convenient compartments, as a day spent canvassing with her revealed. We met after she had finished her afternoon's work stamping books at the local library. She strode out purposefully across the bridge by the picturesque canal, past the garish amusement arcade and up the hill to the top of the downs, pointing out features of the local landscape. She spoke with the knowledge of a local and the enthusiasm of a convert — although it is 30 years since she married into an old Bude family and moved here from her native Croydon, that is not long enough to be regarded as anything other than a "furrer" by many Cornish folk.

"Over there is Efford Down where a property speculator who now lives abroad is trying to get permission to build on an area that has been meadowland since the English Civil War. Down there is where the council has for the past 15 years been supposed to be building a swimming pool. Recently they've tried to push through plans to have it up on the Downs which would mean a lot of ancillary

buildings on an area of outstanding natural beauty — not that that has stopped them in the past." Across the mouth of the bay, on dunes fixed by the rough grass, she points to The Castle. "It was erected by a Victorian inventor to prove that you could build on sand."

At the outset Mrs Parsons's political career seemed to have foundations which were no firmer. But it too could prove surprisingly durable. She entered public life two years ago when the local authorities seemed set on establishing a long-needed £2.5 million sewerage scheme for Bude. Its maceration plant was to be built upon her favourite hilltop. But as she pursued her protest she came across more and more factors which disquieted her. She began a campaign which won national publicity and got the scheme shelved.

"It wasn't a proper sewage treatment plant. It was just something to mince up all the contraceptives, sanitary towels and human waste and pump them into the sea. It wouldn't have got rid of any of the pollution, only disguised it. And they were going to place the outlet 274 metres from the cliff-top instead of the two kilometers which EEC regulations require. What we need is a proper sewerage scheme."

So appalled was Mrs Parsons by the "skulduggery and slippery methods of the authorities" that for the past two years she has attended council meetings as an observer. "They thought I was a nuisance then. Just wait until I get elected."

For all her confidence it is far from certain that she will. Independents have no opinion polls to guide them and in any case Brenda Parsons has deeply divided the electors of Bude. Her calls that evening to private homes brought a fair measure of support. One old lady was typical in expressing new misgivings about the present council. The land between her home and the sea was owned by the council, which had once earmarked it as a public garden; but now she feared that they might sell it to some awful developer. She would vote for anyone who had clashed with the present coterie of councillors. Others talked of the council "slipping things through on the sly".

But her encounters with the business community are less than courteous. Up on the aptly named Wrangle Point she clashed with a hotelier. "You are undermining our livelihood by going on national television and saying 'This place stinks', he fulminated. "Well it does."

"No more than any other seaside town. You're just a loud-mouth. I pay more rates than you do; why should you have so much to say?"



Walkie talkies: sheepdog Randit goes canvassing in Bude with independent candidate Mrs Brenda Parsons

Without tourists this place will die."

Passions run as high in other parts of the country. Morecambe Traders Association candidates are complaining that their town is ignored by the Lancaster district council. In Norwich, Doug Underwood is focusing local discontent with the "incoherent" education policies of Norfolk County Council as the Bowthorpe Schools candidate.

At Chertsey in Folkestone, Kathy Methven is standing as the Against The Channel Tunnel Scheme candidate. Nearby in Hythe South, Trevor Denniff is standing as a Clean Sea candidate, though this time the coastal pollution threat is more sinister.

"Dungeness nuclear power station is planning a Magnox dissolution plant to pump low-level radioactive waste into the Channel," Denniff says. "People could vote Liberal or Labour, who are both against it, but for someone to stand on this single issue gives local people the chance to show how strongly they feel about the matter. I don't expect to get elected without a party label, which is a shame really because many local issues like Dungeness or the Channel Tunnel don't respond to conventional party allegiances."

Colin Brooks, who is standing in Ascot, clearly would agree. For the past 32 years he has been a member

of the Conservative Party, seven of them as a leading councillor. But 10 months ago he resigned the whip to become a lone dissenter on an all-Tory council. "These days Conservative councillors have become reduced to merely implementing the national party line. There is no real consideration of the long-term benefit of the local community."

David Denver says: "Local government has been steadily politicized in recent years. How you view that depends on your political philosophy. Those who see the local community as having a unified interest will disapprove. What can be said in favour is that it has resulted in a higher turn-out; there are fewer uncontested elections these days."

In Brenda Parsons's North Cornwall district, traditionally run by independents, there are this year more party candidates than ever before. Elsewhere many of the Ratepayers Groups, which were formed as anti-Labour alliances in days when being a Conservative was less fashionable, are in decline. In Pontypool Brownwen Norris, who was once one of 11 Ratepayers, is now the only remaining councillor; asked why she is now not standing as a Conservative, as many other former Ratepayers have, she replies emphatically: "My political views are private, really."

The ground for the independent is shrinking. In Scotland (where local elections are not taking place this time) there were 356 independents in 1974, according to David Denver's research. At every election the number has declined. In 1981 there were only 272. At regional level the number has more than halved in that period and there is no reason to believe that the decline in England, where independents currently control fewer than 15 per cent of the 12,109 seats, has been any less marked.

Obviously the life-expectancy of many independents is bound to be limited. Where are Edinburgh's Anti-Papal Visit candidates today? But with supplementary deposits now at £500, the local council, where candidacy is dependent only upon nomination by 10 electors, is often the only refuge for the protest of the ordinary citizen. How else could Harold Brew, the Abingdon Branch Railway Restoration candidate, make public his case for a railway system "which would be viable even after a nuclear war"?

TOMORROW

Solihull: why victory in the Midlands is so vital to Mrs Thatcher

Picture of mystery

Who is the anonymous owner of a Van Gogh set to become the second most expensive painting on record?

The corner of the veil has been lifted on one of New York's most private art collections by Christie's announcement that they are to sell Van Gogh's painting of "Le Pont de Trinquetaille" in London in June. Commenting on the owner, who is identified simply as "S. Kramarsky", Christie's director James Roundell said last week: "You should not assume that it is the Siegfried Kramarsky who is recorded as buying the picture in 1932, nor that it is a man." After this limited comment, he seemed to wonder if he had gone too far.

"Le Pont de Trinquetaille" was painted in the same year as Van Gogh's famous "Sunflowers" series and is coming to London for sale as a direct result of the £25 million bid for the last one at Christie's in March. The auctioneers expect it to become the second most expensive picture in the world but are talking conservatively of a price around £8 million. London dealers appear to agree with this caution. It is not an image that everyone has grown up with on the schoolroom wall like the "Sunflowers".

One dealer categorized it as "a thinking person's picture", with the clear implication that most rich collectors do not fall into this category. Thinking people, however, tend to rate it more highly than the £25 million "Sunflowers". "Le Pont de Trinquetaille" was painted at Arles during one of Van Gogh's most inspired creative spells, the week of October 6 to 13, 1888.

So who was the "thinking person" who bought the

painting at the Silberberg sale in Paris in 1932 for 361,000 francs? Siegfried Kramarsky was a German banker of Jewish extraction, who settled in Amsterdam in 1924. Expanding small sums to furnish his modest home, he accumulated works which are now accounted spectacular treasures. The collection is still substantially intact and belongs partly to a family foundation and partly to Siegfried's three children. Van Gogh was Kramarsky's special favourite. A painting of Daubigny's house was sold from the collection a few years ago, but the family retains a masterpiece, a "Portrait of Doctor Gachet" painted in 1890. Werner Kramarsky, the banker's younger son, is unwilling to discuss the other pictures in the collection, but he admits to another Van Gogh painting of "Shoes", a series of Cézanne water colours and two Rembrandt drawings, one of them a study for "The Jewish Bride".

Siegfried Kramarsky escaped to America in 1939 with his art treasures and his three children. But Sonia, now 65, Bernard, 63, and Werner, 61, are anxious to cover their traces as the owners of great works of art. The "S. Kramarsky" identified by Christie's as owning "Le Pont de Trinquetaille" is, indeed, "not a man" but a married woman using a single initial and her maiden name to avoid identification so that the sale "does not affect her lifestyle", as her brother explains. For her sake, let us hope the price does not go too high.

Geraldine Norman



"Le Pont de Trinquetaille": a thinking man's picture

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ACROSS

- Weak, feeble (6)
- Location (4)
- Stupid person (5)
- Usual procedure (7)
- Furive (8)
- Rhine/Rhone range (4)
- Settle, decide (9)
- Fortune (4)
- Frenzied state (8)
- Landlord's agent (7)
- Lever (5)
- Cut down (4)
- Tedious speech (6)

DOWN

- Courage (5)
- Hospitality (3)
- Taff Valley mining centre (7,6)
- Gift in gratitude (7)
- Break (5)
- School test (4)
- Tardy (4)
- Sword shaft (4)
- Diminish (7)
- Society (4)
- Moisten meat (5)
- Tower of London bird (5)
- Copper grinder (4)
- Mine (3)



IT'S NOT THE GROUND HE'S LOOKING AT. IT'S HIS GRAVE.

There's one thing in Mozambique today that's still in plentiful supply. Ground on which to die.

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Seeds of a wild city

An apple tree of mysterious lineage is in full flower on the bank of one of the many tentacles of the Birmingham canal system which probe the foundations of the city centre. Chris Baines subscribes to the romantic theory of its origins, that it grew from an apple core tossed there by a bargee from a passing boat.

He points to a smothering of lupins and brambles, which may be the last relics of a long-demolished lock-keeper's cottage garden. The national movement to sustain urban wildlife is founded on such isolated riots of green amid the concrete.

Like a streetwise urchin, Baines had led the way into this low-level paradise through a hole in the fence off a thundering city centre artery. These are still navigable waterways; but Baines sees them more as long, narrow, unpolluted lakes for dragonflies and kingfishers.

This slab of canal provides the opening setting of Baines's new BBC1 series, *The Wild Side of Town*, which begins on May 19. In it this bustling pioneer of the urban wildlife movement explores the abundance of nature in cities and towns and proposes ways to preserve and expand it.

Baines's concept, that urban nature is rich, diverse and good for the people who live and work close to it, has taken firm root in Birmingham and 50 other towns and cities the length of Britain. Evidence of the movement's success is the launch on Wednesday by Baines and William Waldegrave, the Environment Minister, of National Wildflower Week, which runs until May 25.

But it started uncertainly with a failure. Baines and other concerned campaigners

Why National Wildflower Week will put Birmingham on the wildlife map



Dedicated to the urban wild: conservationist Chris Baines

wanted to save an abandoned gravel pit from development. Establishment conservationists recoiled in disbelief. "They said: 'This is in the middle of Birmingham. It can't have any value.' But it had 200 pairs of sand martins. We lost it because there was barely a whisper from anyone in authority."

They realized politicians had to be convinced that

urban wildlife was not "green tat and bronchitic starlings". A recent study of the city's urban habitat found it to be 10 times better for nature than equivalent pieces of countryside.

"In Birmingham the green corridors of disused railway lines are richer than hedges in the countryside ever were," Baines says. "They have been isolated from agriculture since long before pesticides were invented."

Urban conservationists move unhindered about their domain but own nothing as it is either publicly owned, or has a huge development value hopelessly beyond their pocket.

"In towns we can play the democratic process," Baines says. "If we can work the planning system and lobby our elected representatives, we have as much chance of influencing the use of a site as the big developer. Buying a little bit of land to manage as a meadow would be farcical in a city which spends £10 million on grass mowing. So much better to persuade the parks department to mow creatively to encourage skylarks to nest."

He points to a potentially huge explosion of urban habitat since 1980 when the recession started. "But we must not simply abandon these sites and leave them to nature. We can do much better this time."

His vision is of a green urban matrix into which new development can be fitted as the economy grows. He believes a start should be made on unused, publicly-owned land. "We can turn them into beautiful wild places very cheaply and quickly, creating jobs in the process. It would make us the envy of Europe."

Gareth Huw Davies

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MONDAY PAGE

Is there life after Lloyd?

Chris Evert's divorce from her British husband, John Lloyd, is only 20 days old, but the winner of the record number of 150 singles titles is finding the experience more one of sadness than relief.

Ten days after the divorce, Evert was in Houston, beating Hana Mandlikova and Martina Navratilova, both ranked ahead of her at the time, to win the title there. This week she is in Largo, Florida, where yesterday she beat Kate Gompert to win her 151st title in the \$150,000 Eckerd Open. With her is new boyfriend Andy Mill, a former US Olympic downhill skier.

Evert, however, is still not accustomed to hearing her newly truncated name. "I'm still going through some sadness," she says. "John and I talk all the time. We're still close. Well, we were together eight years. We know deep down it didn't work. We don't want anybody to think we didn't have a special caring for each other. I still talk to him all the time about my matches. He was very much part of my tennis."

She now believes the emotional toll that her dedication to tennis required may have contributed to the failure of her marriage. "A tennis career is very demanding emotionally," she says. "I probably didn't even have enough left for John. I was so wrapped up in the tournaments."

Now, at the age of 32, she believes that things are different. "I think I'm a better person than I was two years ago. I'm making decisions for myself. I'm more independent."

She was upset, however, by some of the stories that appeared in the press, particularly the British tabloid newspapers. "They've been writing some really terrible things about me and John. Especially about me. The British are a different breed. Everyone else has been good and fair. The British papers described Andy as a ski instructor, which is like saying I'm a tennis instructor. And John and I didn't want to disclose the settlement. But they simply lie."

She and her former husband plan to remedy the situation shortly before next month's Wimbledon championships. "John and I will maybe do a press conference about this together," she says, admitting

Divorce may have shortened Chris Evert's name, but her list of successes on the tennis court grows ever longer. Linda Pentz talked to her in Florida, where yesterday she won her 151st singles title

that she is apprehensive about her first trip back to London without the Lloyd name.

John Lloyd was apparently reluctant to appear at Wimbledon at all until his former wife talked him into it. "He said it might be horrendous," she reports. "John asked me if he should play. He was hesitant. I told him to get his butt over there. He and Wendy [Turnbull] should play mixed doubles and he should play the men's doubles with Johan [Kriek]."

Looking back, she also wonders at the merits of having published a dual autobiography with Lloyd, penned by Carol Thatcher, daughter of the Prime Minister, and published in June last year. The



Old partnership: Evert and Lloyd

'John and I talk all the time about my matches. We're still very close'

book, *Lloyd on Lloyd*, was poorly received and generally held to portray John Lloyd in an unflattering light.

"Carol came to us right when we'd just got back together again," she says. "I wasn't for it. John and I talked it over and I didn't feel we should do it. But John was really excited. He always wanted to have a vehicle in England where he could say what he felt. He thought it would be fun."

"It was an honour for Carol to do the book, but John wanted her to because he's so much for Maggie. And we were a team. But I didn't like the way he was portrayed. I'm more sensitive to it than John is. He's still very proud of the book."

Off the court, Andy Mill, aged 34, who is going through a divorce himself, is Evert's constant companion and will travel with her throughout the summer. The two met at a New Year's Eve party in Aspen, Colorado, the ski resort where Mill lives.

"It's still a new relationship," Evert says. "It's a tough thing because John has a girlfriend in Los Angeles and I have Andy. John and I feel very respectful towards each other and we don't want to flaunt anything. We try to be low key, but we're not discreet because there's nothing to hide."

She is particularly conscious that once again she is involved with a prominent athlete, following her adolescent relationship with Jimmy Connors and her marriage to Lloyd. "I cringe at the publicity," she says. "Both relationships failed. I'm guarded now. I want to protect this."

Mill is a celebrity within US ski circles. He competed in two world championships, in 1974 and 1978, finished sixth in the downhill at the 1976 Winter Olympic Games in Innsbruck and came twelfth at the 1980 Games in Lake Placid. Currently he is the ski commentator for NBC television and has his own television show - *Ski With Andy Mill* - which is syndicated to 75 stations in US ski areas.

"In the summertime I'm pretty much free," Mill says. "So I'll travel with Chris to all the tournaments through August, when I have to go to South America."

There are no wedding plans, although Evert wears a gold signet ring where her wedding band used



Chris Evert: "A tennis career is very demanding emotionally. I probably didn't have enough left for John."

to be, with the letter "A" engraved on it. Frequently stereotyped as the girl next door and often asked when she might retire to have babies, she has not yet ruled out domesticity from her future.

"When my tennis career is over, I know I'll live a normal life with a steady relationship and have kids," she says. "I think tennis has prevented me from having normal feelings as a young woman."

The ice maiden has melted now. "I was pretty stoic in my late teens and early twenties," she recalls. "I didn't show anything on court. But now I feel more emotion and I'm enjoying my tennis. I probably show it on the court, too."

She still plans to cut back her playing schedule in 1988, but rules out retirement. "If you're good at something, why stop? Tennis is a short-lived career. 10 or 15 years. But it's a great life."

Despite her reservations about the British Press, she is looking forward to Wimbledon, where she has won the singles title three times. "There have been a few years when I should have won it but I didn't," she says. Now, though, she is gearing up for the

French Open, which she has won seven times.

Evert and Navratilova enjoy a relationship unusual in professional sport. Rivals for the number one position in the world since July 1978, when the former Czech first seized the top spot from Evert, the two have become closer friends over the years. It was Navratilova who invited Evert on the ski trip which led to meet Mill.

However, Evert invariably beats her rival in the popularity polls among American tennis fans. She believes it's a combination of an American preference for femininity and the fact that Navratilova is Czech-born.

Martina, she says, is intimidating because of her strength. "She's a premier woman athlete and she's built differently. It intimidates the public. I was brought out at 16 at the US Open. They took me to their hearts that young. When Martina complains a lot, she should remember that (a) she's number one and (b) I've been around a lot longer and I grew up in the public eye as an American."

Mop, don't mope

That 'treasure' of a home help may be a thing of the past

I do not employ a cleaning lady, but not for want of such a treasure. Ever since I came home one May Day Holiday to find the house- keys on the doorstep, with a note wrapped round them, I have lacked the courage to try again.

The note read: "Dear Madam, It is with great regret that I have to inform you I can no longer stand the looks I have been getting from your cat. He sits on the draining board while I am washing the dishes with his big eyes, and I have the impression he is going to tell you if I do not do it right."

When I found her note, should I have killed the cat and begged my helpmate to come back and clean the flat? I did not. I rolled up my sleeves, got out the rubber gloves, and batted her a little more with each ounce of effort expended.

Cleaning ladies, like lovers, leave when you are down, but on the whole I think they make a tactical error. If only they flounced out when everything was too good to be true, what a fond impression they would leave behind. As imperfection took hold with every passing day, you would remember the good times.



Instead, you learn quite happily to live without them. One Filipino housekeeper I knew left without warning for Manila on New Year's Day, failing to clean up after a big party the night before. Two days later, the dirty glasses were still littering the living-room and the jilted mistress of the house cleaned everything herself, including the housekeeper's room - which was filthy. When she realized how little time it actually took her to perform these tasks herself, she never bothered to look for a replacement again.

She understood then and there that she did not really want a cleaning lady at all. She wanted a sunny presence on the premises.

One friend thought she had found just such a delight. She fell out, not with her friendly Spanish cleaning lady herself, but with her manager, a large, ferocious male compatriot, who pocketed the earnings. When the employer went away, the couple moved into the flat, explaining that they could keep an eye on her interests much better that way. They did not, however, bother to clean the flat. "You were not here, so my client was entitled to take her holiday," the manager said.

Perhaps this is one more area in which personal contact, with all its hazards, is a thing of the past. I have seen people chatting to the dishwasher machine late on a lonely night, secure at least in the knowledge that it will not talk back or kick the cat.

Glenys Roberts

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This crying shame

One knows that this life is a vale of tears, but I never thought that the office was one too. Yet according to Kathleen Hoover-Dempsey, professor of psychology at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, and co-author of the report *Tears and Weeping Among Professional Women*, so much crying is done at work that it is a wonder the carpet-tiles in the corridor aren't permanently awash.

Of the women who were interviewed, 80 per cent said that they cried in the office, 20 per cent of them more than 10 times in a year. What is going on here? Only anger says the professor. The women cried because they couldn't "visualize shouting back or arguing". They back or argue? They couldn't, huh? Well, I think in that case they should stay at home doing their paperwork, sniffing their smelling-salts and receiving the occasional tea-time visitor when they aren't too tired.

Shouting back and arguing are part of work, and if you are too fragile a flower to raise your voice, you should jack in your pocket-calculator and executive toys.

Although nobody wants working women to clone themselves into substitute



PENNY PERRICK

men (not least because they looked so ghastly during the mercifully brief period when they took to wearing rigid suits and low-heeled shoes), they will never become chief executive of British Steel if they cry bucketfuls every time their flow-charts come in for a bit of stick.

Tears at work aren't wrong because they are womanly, but because they are unbusiness-like. The crying game should be played in private. Let your mascara run in the office and you will look as out of place there as those women who cover the corporate window-sills with African violets

and bring out their knitting during sales conferences.

Long observation of office life has shown me that so-called "manly" behaviour is the appropriate mode for working in. I am not an unqualified admirer of the average male executive, but I like his style when it comes to fighting his corner. He shouts, argues, reduces his opponent to jelly and then, a couple of hours later, joins him in the pub for "just the one".

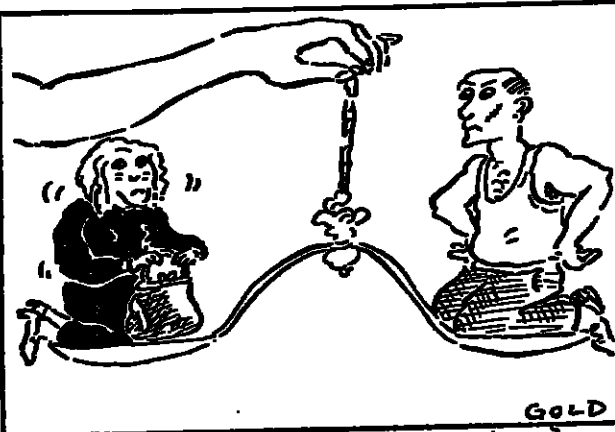
Tears can't be dealt with so easily. Brimming eyes require hugs, compassion, promises never to do it again. Since these are impossible to provide in the workplace, colleagues feel awkward, embarrassed, and it is hard to restore a sense of civilized companionship. For productivity to flourish unhindered, a place of work needs to be somewhat impersonal.

At home it is a different matter. Cry your heart out when your lover fails to call, your child doesn't get the lead in the school play, your favourite plate gets chipped. A home without displayed emotion is a barren place. But fight back the tears between nine and five. After all, as I am sure your mother will have told you already, a job is only a job.

As a recent witness, Mary Dejevsky argues for a little more thought at court

Face to face with a thief

FIRST PERSON



appeared keen to avoid the pitfalls they too must have read about. I was called - by Tannoy - to meet them within half an hour of arriving (except that we lost each other in the reception area for another half an hour). As yet no court room had been allocated, they said, but the accused was being encouraged to plead guilty. Ten minutes later I was told that he was still protesting his innocence and the trial would go ahead.

We were called at around 12.15pm (so the legends of judges' lunches were unfounded as well). Nor had the stories of physical deprivation borne out. The canteen at Southwark Crown Court offers fresh warm scones and coffee that would not disgrace a respectable Italian restaurant. And you can claim the cost back as

part of your witness's expenses.

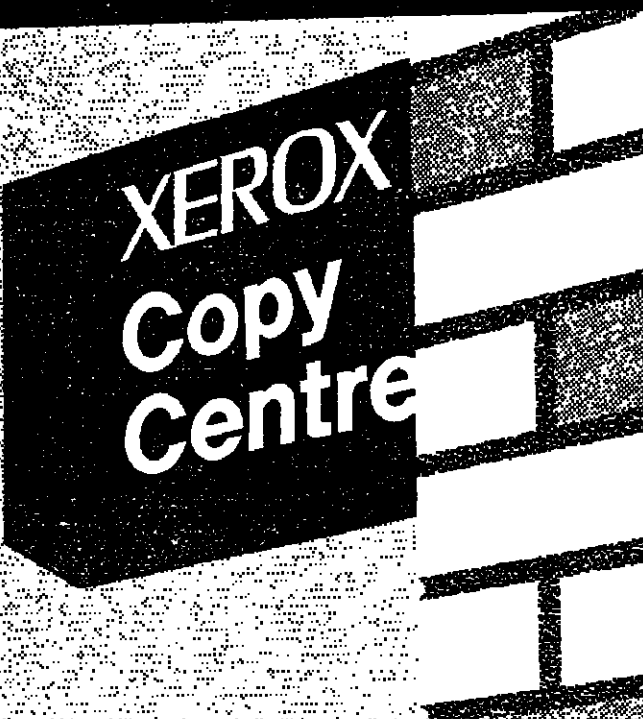
But in one respect Southwark Crown Court did conform to the stereotype of unsatisfactory court practice. For much of the waiting time I was sharing the reception area with, among others, the defendant. I was about to testify against him. He was on bail. We even shared the lift up to the courtroom - just the two of us, not a lawyer or policeman in sight.

Nor was court procedure especially reassuring. Once sworn in, you have to give not only your name, but also your address, in the hearing of the full court. Mine was a temporary address, miles from central London. But if it had been closer to Southwark Crown Court or to where the defendant lived, and if the offence had been more serious, I might not have been so willing to give it.

The defence counsel was less than courteous. Having experience of radio interviews (on both sides of the microphone), I was not perturbed. Without that experience, I might have been.

And the verdict? Despite well-intentioned promises, the police have not actually told me. It would have been a thoughtful gesture, and would have made a morning off work seem that much more worthwhile.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Oxford solidarity

Natan Sharansky, the Soviet dissident released last year, is to launch a series of 24-hour hunger strikes on Thursday by Oxford University students campaigning for the release of refusenik Alexey Magarik. The Oxford Campaign for Soviet Jewry plans for one person a day to go without food until Magarik is freed from a Siberian labour camp. Tommy Gross, one of the organizers, tells me there are already enough volunteers to see the strike through until the end of term. Sharansky, one of the world's most famous hunger strikers, arrives in Britain on Wednesday for a meeting with Mrs Thatcher. He will speak to the Oxford Union the next day on "Gorbachov, glasnost and the Jews." Magarik, a talented cellist and teacher of Hebrew, was jailed in March 1986 on a charge after a car crash in which he was killed. Fears are now growing that Magarik may never be able to play again because the labour camp refuses to allow him protective gloves when working with dangerous fibrous materials.

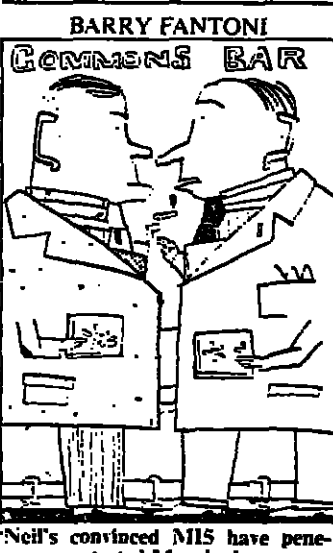
Cashing in on the Pope's controversial beatification last week of Edith Stein, the Catholic convert murdered at Auschwitz in 1942, publishers Peter Owen are rushing out a paperback collection of her theological, philosophical and feminist works this autumn.

Space race

Labor jubilation at beating the Tories in buying up the nation's prime vacant poster sites for the election campaign may be short-lived. Roy Hattersley boasted last week that the party had staged its coup after a tip that Saatchi and Saatchi were about to book the hoardings for the Central Office. I now discover, however, that acres of poster space will become available immediately the election date is announced because most government advertising is usually suspended during the campaign. The Department of Employment's Action for Jobs is one of the largest campaigns, currently featuring on 3,000 bus sides, 3,000 bus shelters and 1,300 large poster sites. The potential of these imminent vacancies has not been lost on Tory ministers. I am assured.

Winning way

Mrs Thatcher has melted another heart — this time that of the Japanese trade minister, Hajime Tamura. Emerging after an unscheduled 15-minute Commons chat with the PM last week, Tamura told journalists through an interpreter: "She always remained kind, with a smile which was very touching to me."



Reverse side

Newspaper lawyers are understandably none too pleased by the release of details about Sir James Goldsmith's libel fund, which underwrote the expensive but successful libel action against the BBC by Tory MPs Neil Hamilton and Gerald Howarth. But before Sir James is inundated with requests for help from the fund, he might ponder the implications of a little reported case in 1980 in which Lord Denning declared that "maintenance" (funding someone to bring an action against someone else) is "contrary to the civil law and public policy" unless the person funding the action "has a legitimate and genuine interest in the result of it" and agrees "to pay the costs of the other side if the action fails".

St Mole's

GCHQ's Cheltenham home is expanding with a new 130,000 square foot office block. The construction will, however, be less than secret as it takes the form of a metal clad octagon, 88 ft high, capped with a huge glass dome. Watch out for the spy satellites.

Chair support

The shame of it. A Greek expatriate has stepped in — where Roy Jenkins has already told me he has no intention of treading — to fight for the Oxford Chair of Byzantine and Modern Greek. Demetrios Loukatos is so shocked that the post may be axed because of lack of funds that he has written to the Greek newspaper *Cathimerini* saying he is donating a month's pension to the fighting fund to save it. In academic circles, incidentally, the chair is nicknamed "the Baywater and Kensington".

PHS

Lawrence Norcross explains his decision to leave Highbury Grove school

How a head's life has become unbearable

Apart from the educational consequences, the effect of such constant dislocation of the school day on the attitudes and perceptions of the pupils scarcely bears contemplation.

I don't think I am alone in finding it increasingly embarrassing trying to explain to parents why their children are having to be sent home again. The more predictable ritual protests of the half-day or one-day strike are something we have all (heads, teachers, pupils, and parents) more or less learned to live with. The unpredictability of no-cover action remains a constant and intolerable strain.

Similarly, the fact that the provision of annual or biannual reports to parents on their children's progress is entirely dependent upon teacher goodwill — often they are not provided at all or are so sketchy as to be virtually

valueless — creates tensions and barriers between teachers and parents which previously did not exist.

In the face of all these difficulties, the ILEA has seemed to many — if not most — of its heads to be unable or unwilling to provide them with any practical support whatsoever. The responsibility for this does not rest with the authority's officers and inspectors (most of whom share the dismay and despair felt by the heads), but with a failure of political will. ILEA members show no signs of being prepared to sanction effective disciplinary action against teachers however unofficial and sometimes downright irresponsible their actions may have been. The suspicion — shared by many heads, whatever their political persuasion — is that they are not prepared to agree to any punishment of those whom

they regard as their natural allies: the far left sections of the teaching profession. This is as damaging to the morale of the many dedicated, hard-working classroom teachers as it is to that of the heads, to whom the ILEA nevertheless looks to see that its schools function effectively.

Neither does this awareness of the daily difficulties faced by heads inhibit in any way the ILEA's constant flow of initiatives and questionnaires (always apologetically introduced by some such expression as "I know what a heavy burden you are currently carrying, but..."). Most are concerned with race, gender, or sexual orientation.

To those of us who have adopted a sincere and effective anti-racist stance for far longer than many of the present ILEA members have held office, some of these initiatives are positively offensive in their implications. We did not need to wait for the present administration before being informed by a sense of decency, justice, and common humanity. I am not alone in believing that the cause of anti-racism has been done more harm than good by the ILEA's stridently pursuing its valid objectives in such a divisive way.

Faced with these twin pressures, many good, committed teachers have taken the option of early retirement in their mid-fifties, or even earlier. Having reached the age of 60, I have sadly come to the conclusion that there must be more fruitful and less stressful ways of spending my time.

T.E. Utley

Ulster: the last gasp option

I do not feel excessive tenderness towards Secretaries of State for Northern Ireland. However many mistakes they may make, these are almost certain to be blamed on the Irish. It is, politically speaking, the safest job in the Cabinet.

There is one respect, however, in which I do feel sorry for them. It is the continually recurring need to express heartfelt horror at atrocious IRA crimes which, within the constraints of government policy, they are incapable of preventing. Whatever they say, inevitably sounds bland and platitudinous, as do almost all expressions of grief about mortality — and they have to do it all the time.

These politicians are for the most part good and sincere men, none more so than Tom King. There are, however, some obituary themes against which they should be warned. They should not yield to the temptation to imply that every successive atrocity by the IRA — the murder of Lord Justice Gibson and his wife is the latest dramatic example — springs from despair and is the last fling against overwhelming odds. They should also not imply, however obliquely, that these atrocities constitute some sort of justification for British policy. The argument at present is that if the Anglo-Irish Hillsborough agreement were not such a good thing, the IRA would not be so concerned to destroy it by promoting violence. This is a curious mode of thought, the logical conclusion of which would seem to be that the more terrorist crimes are committed in Ulster, the better government policy must be. After almost 20 years, that line of reasoning is wearing pretty thin.

The stark truth is that the IRA will go on fighting until it is beaten or until it has succeeded in expelling Britain from Ulster and in overturning the bourgeois Republic in the South. Hillsborough is its latest political victory, since the agreement, without improving security one jot, has totally alienated the Ulster community and confronted the British with the prospect of a war on two fronts. It has also put paid, for the moment, to all prospects of a constitutional settlement in the North acceptable to Protestants and Catholics.

So where do we go from here? We are, in my judgement, moving rapidly towards a "solution to the Northern Ireland problem" which will be almost equally distasteful to all the players in the game, except possibly the IRA — I mean an independent Northern Ireland. It will be distasteful to the British because they fear its probable result — a nervous, bigoted, unstable little state established within a few miles of their shores.

It will also be distasteful to them because it will not appeal to the Americans and the other foreign supporters of Irish unification. It will be objectionable to the Irish Republic because it will deprive it of all influence on the government of the North and of its cherished role as the protector of the Catholic minority there.

It will certainly be uncongenial to responsible Northern Ireland Unionists. Last week a number of their MPs gave a breakfast at the Savoy for the few servants of the media who were thought to be at all interested. Its theme was that the Unionists would soon put forward their own proposals for a constitutional settlement in Ulster but would not discuss them until the Hillsborough agreement was abandoned or suspended. Meantime, the policy of abstention would continue.

After the general election, the matter would come to the crunch. If Britain would not budge from the Hillsborough agreement, some of these Unionists said there would be no alternative but to embark on negotiations with a view to a separate state. The Rev Martin Smyth, then whom a Unionist is more stalwart, said, rather unrealistically, that he would give him the option? What was perfectly clear was that all those present regarded an independent Ulster as nothing better than the only alternative to a united Ireland or the indefinite maintenance of the present intolerable stalemate.

My view is that this unpleasant alternative should now be publicly examined in order to concentrate people's minds. This might induce Mrs Thatcher to modify her present position to the extent of putting Hillsborough into some sort of partial suspension during negotiations with the Unionists: it might induce Mr Haughey to recognize that he has no interest in destabilizing Ulster and that, anyway, he is getting very little of advantage from the agreement as it at present operates. It might also persuade the Unionists to realize that if they want to remain part of the kingdom they are not well advised to absent themselves from all the kingdom's proceedings.

But I must admit that I have a lingering fear and thought. It is possible that negotiated independence, on the basis of dominion status with constitutional guarantees for the minority, would eventually prove the only tolerable way out of the deadlock. I do not believe this is the answer: I do not see any effective means of protecting the minority under that arrangement; but politics consists largely of second bests.

Philip Howard

On the trail of Mr Average

Rule 64 of journalism — at least for the pundits: never ask questions. You are the one posturing as a know-all up there on your column and you get enough silly letters from readers to answer without inviting trouble.

Rule 65 of journalism: all rules of journalism are made to be broken, especially this one.

Sir, Please sir, I have a question. I can see it is imprudent, but I shall burst if I do not find the answer. A few weeks ago I wrote that like most of our countrymen I am an *un homme moyen politique*, name-dropping a tag to suggest polyglot cultivation. The Rev L.A. Garrard wrote to me asking nicely if I knew where the battered cliché *un homme moyen sensuel* came from, since he had been looking for years without success.

Easy-peasy. I thought: it will be one of those quotable Frog "M"s who crowd the quotation dictionaries: Molière, Montaigne, Montesquieu, or de Musset. Failing them, La Rochefoucauld. So I looked in the quotation dictionaries. Then I took a trip to the London Library and looked in bigger and better quotation dictionaries. Then I asked B. Levin and other of my friends whose nodules are crammed with goblets of useless information. Then I asked literate French friends. Then I rang the French embassy. Then I panicked.

Somebody must have written it or said it. It does not have the ring of an *anonymous maxim* or a piece of proverbial folklore. It is very odd that I cannot find the author of such a well-worn quotation. No doubt he is known by every French schoolchild. In that case, all I can say is that the French schoolchildren I have tried were exceptional.

Man is a quoting animal. It depends on one's idiosyncrasy which quotations linger in the memory, and make the hair at the nape of the neck bristle. I am haunted by lines that were penned in a summer-house by Lake Geneva 200 years ago next month: "It was among the ruins of the Capitol that I first conceived the idea of a work which has amused and exercised nearly twenty years of my life, and which, however inadequate to my own wishes, I finally deliver to the curiosity and candour of the public."

Finishing a book has the relief and sense of loss of giving birth. And for a daily hack there is something odd about spending 20 years on a piece. Gibbon then took a walk in his avenue of

acacias. The air was temperate, the sky was serene, the silver orb of the moon was reflected from the waters, and all nature was silent: "I will not dissemble the first emotions of joy on recovery of my freedom, and, perhaps, the establishment of my fame." Marvellous. Almost as hair-bristling as the account of the beginning of *The Decline and Fall*, with the barefooted friars singing Vespers in the Temple of Jupiter.

The only poem to a work of prose to compare with it is the



opening of *The Golden Bough*, with the grim figure bowing round his sacred tree far into the night, the priest who slew the slayer, and shall himself be slain. McEachern of Shrewsbury used to call such haunting tags "spells".

Some authors are more prolific with single-liners than others, greater authors. I have never been able to get to the end of *Fringarum Wake's* stream of consciousness without skipping, but it does contain haunting spells. Sometimes a single-liner gets distorted by its quoter. It was not "Blood, sweat, and tears" that Churchill had to offer the House, but "Blood, toil, tears and sweat." I'm having in my list: *Giù per lo mondo senza fine amaro*. And also:

*Ariane, ma sœur, de quel amour blessée
Vous m'entraînez aux bords où vous lûtes lavée?*
That must be the only occasion in literature that that absurd tense, the French historical past or pluperfect is used to good effect. A great book is more than a congeries of glittering quotations. But there is comfort in the great single-liners. "All losses are restored and sorrows end."

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

As busy as a bureaucrat

There is an old story, which may be less apocryphal than is comfortable to think about, of a farmer being chivvied by the Ministry of Agriculture because he had not sent in details of crops and yields by the date specified. He wrote to say he had been very busy, as it was lambing time, whereupon the Ministry told him, severely, that he was in breach of the regulations with his delay, and should have postponed the lambing.

The gentleman in Whitehall does not know best; who, including the lambs, would think he does? But his latest wheeze, which is very far from apocryphal, is beyond patience. The Department of the Environment, whose selfless and never-ceasing efforts to destroy the environment altogether are all too little appreciated, has produced a Green Paper, for consultative purposes, about "pests", which, it seems, does not refer to officials of the Department of the Environment but to such undoubted nuisances as wasps and cockroaches. The idea behind the Green Paper is that local authorities should be given powers to destroy all the wasps, cockroaches, etc. that they can find. (A wasp can fly faster than any member of Ealing Borough Council can run, but let that pass.)

So far, so good; unless you are a wasp, a cockroach or a Buddhist, you will probably be unconcerned at the forthcoming *battue*. You may, however, pause for reflection when you learn that the DoE wishes to include bees in the list of *hostes humani generis*.

Possibly the gentleman in Whitehall was once stung by a bee; certainly he has been stung by the reaction of the Beekeepers' Association (who were not, of course, consulted in advance, or even informed, about the Green Paper), for he has tried to make the proposal look less grotesque by claiming that there is no intention of encouraging local authorities to exterminate all the bees for miles around. But he is trying to close the hive door after the bees have flown.

Apiculture is one of the earliest activities of man; there is a cave-drawing in Spain, probably at least 100,000 years old, showing two honey gatherers climbing up to a bees' nest, and bees were domesticated almost as long ago. Moreover, the bee begins to buzz in history and literature from the earliest beginnings of both: the Egyptians have had hives for 5,000 years, and St Ambrose and Plato were among the many historical figures of whom it is related that a swarm of bees alighted on their mouths while

they were in the cradle, thus indicating that their adult words, spoken or written, would be as sweet as honey. And do not imagine that "honey" as an endearment is a 20th century American coinage; it occurs in Chaucer.

Shakespeare seems to contradict himself in his use of the bee as a metaphor. In *Pericles* he gets it right: "We would purge the land of these drones, that rob the beehive of her honey", but in *Henry IV, Part 2* he seems to think that the drones go foraging:

*When, like the bee, calling from every flower
The virtuous sweets,
Our rights packed with wax, our mouths with honey,
We bring it to the hive, and like
Are murdered for our pains.*

And it is not only honey-gathering that is of such antiquity; the Bronze Age was familiar with the *cire perdue* method of casting, and the wax used seems to be the product of the bee. There is a curious reference to bees in Herodotus, who says that the country beyond the Ister (which we call the Danube) is impassable, owing to the swarms of bees; modern scholars say that he must have meant mosquitoes.

The Bible is in no doubt: "My son, eat thou honey", says *Proverbs*, "because it is good", but honey has been admired for purposes far removed from eating; Alexander was embalmed in it, for instance. After all, sugar has been long known (though not nearly so long as honey), but its widespread use is of fairly recent date; most of the centuries have preferred honey, a more sensible attitude. I have heard tell that Drambuc incorporated honey, but I have never tried it.

Bees, of course, are held up for our emulation as the most industrious of all creatures, and have been revered for their wisdom. In some bee cultures, a black ribbon is tied to the hives when their owner dies, and in others the bees are solemnly told of his death.

Among the most wonderful of all books of natural history is Karl von Frisch's *The Dancing Bees*; when I first picked it up, more than twenty years ago, I had little interest in bees and none in bee-keeping, but by the time I finished it, two rapt and unbroken hours later, I was looking out of the window on to another world. Frisch must have been a marvelous man; in more than half a century of bee-study, he made a vast range of contributions to the knowledge of his bumbling little friends, starting in 1915 with his discovery that, contrary to the

then settled belief that bees are unable to distinguish colours, they are very substantially dependent on colour for their choice of flowers to forage among, and for orientation. The words with which he chides the old conviction are a model of what a scientific attitude should be (but too often isn't), and says more about the sweetness of his own character than the sweetness of an entire hive:

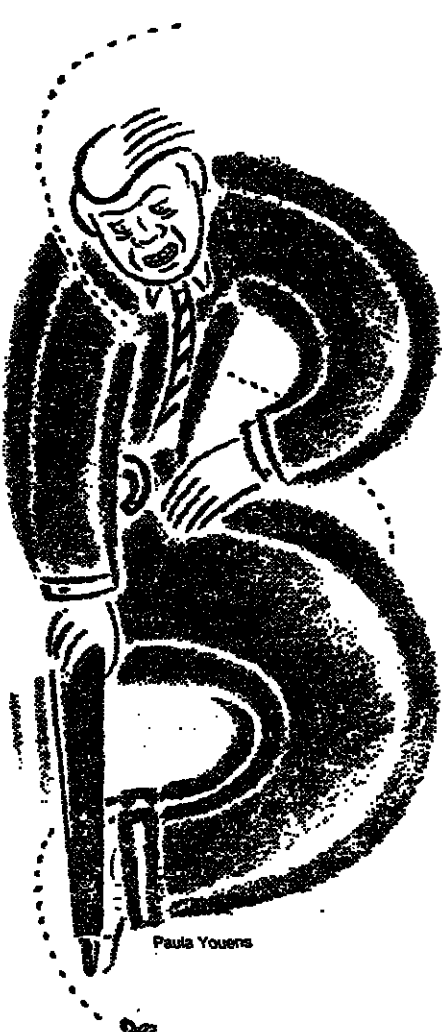
"If we use excessively elaborate apparatus to examine simple natural phenomena Nature herself may escape us. This is what happened some forty-five years ago (he was writing in 1927) when a distinguished scientist, studying the colour sense of animals in his laboratory, arrived at the definite and apparently well-established conclusion that bees were colour-blind."

"It was this occasion which first caused me to embark on a close study of their way of life; for once one got to know, through work in the field, something about the reaction of bees to the brilliant colour of flowers, it was easier to believe that a scientist had come to a false conclusion than that Nature had made an absurd mistake."

Frisch went on to discover the "language" of the bees, unsuspected before he came on the scene; he describes the "dance" that a foraging bee performs on returning to the hive, a meticulously choreographed ballet that gives her sisters an exact geographical fix on the source of provender that she has found. There is, indeed, little modern knowledge of the bee that Frisch did not either reveal or add to, and the reverence with which he approached the subject must have had a great bearing on his ability to discover so much more about them.

I do not remember ever being stung by a bee, though I did once meet a wandering queen, and made myself scarce before the swarm arrived; apistars insist that a bee will not sting wantonly, but I was taking no chances.

There are many millions of bees in this country, which is not surprising in view of the fact



(which is) that in a normal hive there will be quite 50,000 adult bees. Only the other day, bee rustlers stole well over a million from a bee-keeper in Norfolk, who observed, rather pertinently, that they must have been stolen by an expert, "because no one else would have been brave enough".

The only negative attitude to bees I know of is the Roman belief that a swarm of bees was a presage of disaster; just before the battle of Pharsalus, Pompey was making the appropriate sacrifice when a swarm settled on the altar; he went on to fatal defeat by Julius Caesar.

Today, it seems, the wax is on the other thigh: it is bad news for the bees when officials of the Department of the Environment are swarming. I hope the bees sting them all, on the nose, ears, knees and bum for a start. If the officials have enough sense, which is unlikely, they will withdraw the Green Paper, and replace it with a Honey-Coloured Paper on which they will write out one thousand times: The bee is not a pest.

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Why not elections all the time?

This is exactly how we operate our electoral system. The electorate can exercise actual control only about twice a decade, and there is a marked discrepancy between votes cast and members returned to Parliament, and again between members returned and power to determine policy. The result of this combination is the unproductive confrontation between an alternating government and opposition, where all too often each government wastes its time and our wealth reversing the policies of its predecessor.

Nor can it be either comfortable or efficient for politicians to spend much of their professional lives wondering how long they have to perform the tasks they have set themselves.

Proportional representation helps reduce the instability, but leaves untouched the fundamental defect of control being too infrequent. What is needed is continuous feedback from the electorate. This could be realized by replacing general elections altogether, having instead a continuing series of by-elections in which MPs would each be returned for a fixed term of, say, five years. If we kept the same number of MPs, that would

mean a by-election, on average, every three days.

An immediate advantage to the MPs themselves is that they would not be at risk, as at present, to the government calling an election over some issue. The country would benefit from greater stability and continuity of policy, and sections of the electorate could in turn make their influence felt in a more effective way than by their present very limited powers of persuasion and influence.

In order to start the system it would be necessary for the terms of office of MPs returned in the initial election to be determined by lot in a range of about four to seven years. Thereafter, natural events would ensure that by-elections remained reasonably evenly distributed.

The benefits would be most evident in policies having long-term effects, such as education or transport, reservoirs and sewers. Governments would no longer have to show quick results in order to be successful at the next election, nor would they have the same temptation to adopt policies having short-term popularity during the run-up period.

Continuous election, especially if aided by proportional representation,

tion, would tend to produce a balanced Parliament instead of the present conclusive majority for one party or another. This is a consequence of smooth control action replacing what an engineer would call "hunting" in automatic machinery that is, the machinery continually overshoots the desired condition, like a learner oversteering a car.

If the policy of the government did not have the support of the country, its majority would be eroded and eventually reversed by a succession of by-elections. Then, if the policy went too far the other way, it would take only a few such elections to restore the balance.

Politicians have traditionally disliked narrow majorities, but this view is not necessarily shared by electors who have seen balanced parliaments providing the best opportunity for policy being determined by reason and discussion rather than by whipping alone.

In the less confrontational atmosphere made possible by the removal of the two-party see-saw, every party would be under pressure to appear rational and open to discussion: in time even politicians might come to welcome this more constructive framework for their work. Certainly the country would be better governed, just as a car engine performs better when its driver is not oversteering.

P.F. Fellgett

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MAKING VOTERS WALK

Of the three most famous quotations attributed to Mr Tebbit, one of them ("on your bike") he never said. Whether he said the second — the one about no one with a conscience voting Conservative — will be decided by the courts, since it is the subject of a libel action. But he did say recently, of the next general election, that the Conservatives would "walk it". If they do not, he will never be allowed to forget the remark. If they do, it would be understandable if he never lets anyone else forget it.

Whether it proves true or false, it was a complacent and hubristic thing to say at the time it was said. Yesterday Lord Young, Mr Tebbit's colleague in the inner circle which is planning electoral strategy, said that "the biggest risk we run is if people get over complacent". Quite so.

It was not clear exactly who "people" were in this context. Conservative politicians or Conservative voters? Perhaps he meant both, in which case that is hardly fair on the voters. They can hardly be blamed after being told by the chairman that the party, which many of them would otherwise go out and vote for, is going to walk it.

That they are thinking of staying at home — at least in the local elections on Thursday — is suggested by the MORI poll which we publish today. The most alarming

figure in it, for the Conservatives, is that the proportion of Labour electors likely to vote is five per cent higher than Conservatives.

The reason is not any disillusion on the part of Conservative voters. It is Conservative voters sharing Mr Tebbit's belief that their party is going to walk it — or perhaps Conservative voters being encouraged to believe that by Mr Tebbit, whose remark was reported on the television news. Fortunately for the Conservatives, the latest general election poll — MORI in yesterday's *Sunday Times* — has them winning almost as handsomely as in 1983. But in the local election poll lies a hint of the nightmare which has long haunted the Conservatives — an Alliance upsurge during the general election campaign.

That does not appear possible in the MORI general election poll. But that poll appears before any local elections. What if the Alliance captures a council here and there, or otherwise seems to do well? The resultant publicity might give it the take off it so badly needs in the general election campaign which looks like starting within days of the local results being announced.

The Alliance, because of its potential support among middle-class and skilled blue-collar voters, could eat into the Tory vote, while the bedrock Labour vote remained reason-

ably solid. Thus would be produced, not a majority Labour Government, but the hung Parliament feared or sought by so many.

It is reasonable to assume that during the election campaign, if anything as threatening to Mrs Thatcher seemed likely, the warnings sounded by the Conservatives — not least by Mr Tebbit — would rouse Tory Britain from her slumbers. But that would propose a new tactical problem for Mr Tebbit. How to treat the Alliance? He would be unwise to persist in his previous course of calling the SDP a load of socialists.

There is truth in the jibe to the extent that its leaders served in Labour governments — that Mrs Shirley Williams did, in the Tory view, a lot of damage to the education system, for example. But most voters know that socialism was what they fled from. Also, it is difficult to convince many people that the centre is extreme. That may be an unfair advantage which centrist politicians have — but that's politics, and indeed life. Far better, for Mr Tebbit's cause, to depict the Alliance as well-meaning, but muddled — even though Dr Owen for one is not particularly muddled. But Mr Tebbit's immediate problem is Tory complacency. To mangle two of those quotations, he should tell his voters to get on their feet.

BROKEN MARRIAGE IN AUSTRALIA

Last week's collapse of the conservative Opposition coalition in Canberra, ends a marriage of convenience which has dominated Australian politics for most of the time since the Second World War. It was Sir Robert Menzies who first forged the alliance between his own Liberals and what was then the Country Party, 38 years ago.

In Australia, the Liberal Party is the main conservative party. It is the equivalent of the British Tories. But the smaller National (formerly Country) Party is essentially to the right of the Liberals. Both, however, have shades of right and left within them. The two therefore divide the centre-right, anti-Labour vote. The demise of the Opposition coalition therefore leaves the way open for a third successive Labour victory in the election which is due before next April.

By most criteria, Mr Bob Hawke looks like a prime minister in some trouble. A balance of payments deficit, high inflation and a large foreign debt, enforcing comparative austerity and causing gloom, does not sound like a prescription for electoral success.

As it is, Mr Hawke must be regretting that a succession of elections in recent years has dampened the enthusiasm of Australian voters for another one this year. The temptation to call a snap poll now, to capitalize on the present disarray of the opposition, must be almost irresistible.

The coalition's problems are part personal and part political. Neither Mr John Howard, leader of the Liberals, nor Mr Ian Sinclair of the National party, has had the right blend of flair and managerial skill to

command the automatic support of his own rank and file, let alone the rest of Australia.

The result has been discontent within their parties, and continuing threats to both leaders' authority. In the Liberal Party, the threats come from the former leader, the deposed Mr Andrew Peacock, and ultimately, perhaps, from Mr John Elliott, a wealthy businessman who is also a politician on the right of the party. In the National Party, the threat to the leader is more dramatic. It comes from Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen, the 76-year-old political fundamentalist from Queensland. It was Sir Joh's disdain for the Liberals which led him to undermine them several weeks ago by ordering his Queensland MPs out of the coalition. From then it seemed only a matter of time before internal pressures forced the alliance apart.

Politically, the anti-government coalition has been to some extent outmanoeuvred by Mr Hawke himself, who has moved the Labour party to the centre of Australian politics, thus seizing the middle ground. Despite the problems facing him, he has thereby made Labour look like the natural party of government — for the time being anyway.

Mr Howard, the leading partner in the Opposition coalition, has been described as a radical intellectual, whose views bear comparison with those of Mrs Thatcher — though they fall some way short of the policies embraced by Sir Joh (who favours, among other things, a 25 per cent flat rate of income tax). Mr Howard's cause has not been helped however by the failure of his predecessors to

treat Australia's economic ills when they formed the Federal government. Excessive public spending and growing trade union power, in a highly competitive world, were the sins of previous coalition governments as much as the present Labour one.

Comparisons have been made with Britain in the 1970s before Mrs Thatcher came to power. But in Australia's case, there is no Mrs Thatcher — just a bunch of quarrelling politicians whose parties have had the chance before and apparently failed to use it. The Opposition has therefore been in no position to profit from the problems of the party in power and arguably does not deserve it.

What happens now is open to all sorts of speculation. This is not the first time of course that the coalition has fractured and it may in time heal. It is an arrangement which makes political sense because of the Liberals' traditional strength in urban areas and the National party's following in the country. Mr Howard now talks of going it alone — and seems to have little choice. But the Liberals' chances of dislodging Mr Hawke on their own must be considered slim.

If Labour enjoys another victory at the polls, it is hoped that Mr Hawke himself uses his political good fortune for the benefit of Australia as a whole. The country needs firm and imaginative government. Given the failure of the opposition to oppose, Labour has the opportunity to fulfil this need. Indeed it has a responsibility to do so. Mr Hawke will still need all his political skill if he is to discharge this successfully.

FOURTH LEADER

The one thing that is known for certain about the human race is that it is never content to rest on its laurels; the moment a record is broken there arises a determination to break the new one, whether it is the record for running the fastest mile, or for building the tallest skyscraper, or for sailing the Atlantic in the smallest boat, or indeed for believing the largest number of impossible things before breakfast.

The other day there was a story, recounted here, about the light-fingered gentleman who tried to break into a parked car, only to find two policemen sitting in it; it was asserted, much too brashly, that the farthest limits of illegal ineptitude had been reached.

Thus challenged, the British burglar rose to the occasion. There is now news of a malefactor who broke into a house in search of swag, and in doing so awoke the inhabitants. Realizing that they

would shortly come down-stairs, possibly armed with a poker, to investigate the suspicious noises he had been making, he dived into the cupboard under the stairs, not doubt reckoning that if he held his breath the household would decide that it had been mistaken and go back to bed. Unfortunately, he found that he had locked himself in, and when the household, sticking to the belief that there was an uninvited guest on the premises, dialled 999, the police arrived to be greeted by the sound of thumps from the cupboard, accompanied by cries of "Let me out." The police, obliging as ever, let him out, and then ran him in.

Did you ever? Chickens are reputed, not only by the foxes, to be stupid; but there is no record of a chicken that plucked and trussed itself, let alone stuffed itself with sage and onions and climbed into a pre-heated oven. What on earth is coming over British villains? How do they expect

to win the Queen's Award for Industry at this rate?

It is all very well to say that every profession has a few rotten apples in the barrel, and that we should judge by the best, not the worst. It would be easier to do so if episodes like this were not only growing more frequent, but were being treated with a dangerous complacency by those charged with upholding the standards of the trade.

Perhaps it is time for the burglars to be put on the same footing as the members of the more organized professions, and to be subject to a rigorous entrance examination and a code of discipline. It is not quite clear what would constitute conduct unbecoming for a burglar, but however loosely the principle was defined, it would surely cover the case of the man in the cupboard. Oh, and while the authorities are about it, they had better add to the entrance exam a requirement that the candidate has no history of claustrophobia.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The muffled voice of local politics

From Councillor Ruth Lyon
Sir, Amid all the publicity by the political parties in the Press, on radio and television during the lead-up to the local elections, one voice remains unheard. This is the voice of those who by their votes show that they believe that party politics at the local district level are at best irrelevant and at worst harmful.

Through the imposition of party whips on matters which should be decided on the basis of good management and not on party lines, through the importing of national party policies which may not be appropriate to local needs, through the denial through the party system of opportunities to use the best local talent available among the local councillors, the local electors do not obtain the quality of local government they expect.

How many people I wonder, know that at the 1983 local elections 43 councils ended up with independents or residents' associations in control? — or that at the forthcoming elections there will be 2,500 non-party candidates compared with 8,000 each for the political parties?

Scientific threat to crofters

From Mr E. Merrill
Sir, My family earn a living from the land. Recently an OHMS recorded-delivery letter arrived without warning. The contents informed us that we may not indulge in "cultivation; grazing; mowing; introduce stock feeding; use vehicles... likely to disturb features of interest; extract minerals including peat", without written agreement. Many more restrictions are imposed.

We are given four months to appeal. That appeal will be considered by the same body that are of the opinion that the above restrictions are necessary.

This is the grim reality at present faced by our croft and many others on the island of Islay. It is reality for any person whose land falls within a site of special scientific interest as designated by the Nature Conservancy Council. Their Islay "site" extends to 20,764 acres.

Our predominantly crofting community, as reward for success in preserving the countryside, is to be placed in servitude to the NCC.

While we try to come to terms with this onslaught from anonymous zealots, our community faces atrocity. At present our local water supply has failed: we are told no funds are available to help us. We are reduced to carrying water in buckets from wells, while thousands of pounds are spent trying to control our way of life.

Resources are thus crudely directed to the geese and plants, among others, away from people in need.

Our land may be preserved — but what about the people?

Yours,
ERIC MERRILL,
Claddach Croft,
Portlaven,
Islay, Inner Hebrides.
April 23.

Soviet strategy

From Mr Lionel Bloch
Sir, The Director of the Royal Institute of International Affairs deplores "the exaggerated reaction in some Western circles to the 'threat' of a denuclearised Europe" (April 27).

In the same issue, you report M Chirac's statement that Mr Gorbachev's proposals may be dangerous and also the weighty arguments of Messrs Kissinger and Nixon which, in your correspondent's words, amount to a frank rejection of the Soviet leader's offer. They argue that the arms deal under consideration could create the most profound crisis in Nato's history.

This assessment was reinforced by the outgoing American commander of Nato, General Bernard Rogers who stated again last week that without the flexible response available through intermediate range nuclear missiles, Western

Europe could not defend itself against the thrust of the vastly superior Soviet conventional forces.

As this fundamental debate is reaching its climax one would expect a rather less partisan approach from Chatham House.

Alas, Sir James Eberle returned from the USSR full of illusions about glasnost. Had he met well-informed people like Dr Anatoly Koryagin, he might have come back with a more balanced message. Dr Koryagin has just described the changes that so impressed Sir James as "just eyewash — empty promises". But then, the Chatham House version of the Soviet Union describes a country that only exists in the wishful thinking of the Western world.

Yours faithfully,
LIONEL BLOCH,
9 Wimpole Street, W1.
April 27.

Auschwitz martyr

From Mr Frank Pomeranz
Sir, If the Roman Catholic Church (report, feature, April 29) wishes to beatify, or canonise, the Carmelite nun, Edith Stein, a convert from Judaism who was killed in the Holocaust, that is surely its business and I cannot see why it should offend the Jews, of whom I am one.

Heinrich Heine was a converted Jew and it does not offend me in the slightest that he is recognised as one of Germany's greatest poets: on the contrary, it makes me quite proud. When, under pressure, from religious zealots the Tel Aviv municipal council refused to name a street after him, a number of indignant, though impeccably Jewish, literary men gathered in what was proposed should become Heinrich Heine Street and symbolically named it that.

The world of music considers Felix Mendelssohn, another Jewish Christian, to be a good thing — which causes me no offence, either. Sister Teresa Benedicta may well have been murdered because of her Jewishness, rather than her adopted religion, but why should that stop the Catholic Church honouring her? I really fail to understand what all the fuss is about.

Yours,
FRANK POMERANZ,
10 Manor Avenue,
Brookley, SE4.
April 29.

ardent Catholic would admit that it was for Edith Stein's Jewishness that she was sent to Auschwitz.

Since the Second Vatican Council the Roman Catholic Church has renounced its attempts to convert the Jews to Christianity and stresses the Judeo-Christian heritage which has enriched the Catholic faith. I believe that the conciliatory process has now been too far advanced to see a return to the "bad old days" or to regard the decision to honor Edith Stein as a Catholic martyr as a compliment to her Jewishness rather than a denial of it.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
B. F. O'GRADY,
1 Rosaline Road,
Fulham, SW6.
April 29.

Student teachers

From Mr H. I. Jones
Sir, I am delighted to read today (report, April 29) HM Inspectors are concerned at the lack of preparation for the classroom given to student teachers.

Ten years' ago, when a headmaster, I asked a student teacher coming for practice shortly what preparation he had received concerning how to start a lesson, how to gain pupils' attention, when and how to set homework. He replied: "Between these four walls, nothing. Interesting lectures on ethnic cultures, yes, but on classroom teaching, nothing."

The other day I was in contact with a student, at the same establishment, about a possible educational future and put the same question. She replied: "Nothing. The lecturers concentrate on equal opportunities (note the change of jargon) and we have received no advice on how to take lessons".

Yours,
H. I. JONES
(formerly Head of Brockley County School),
3 Downs Bridge Road,
Beckenham, Kent.
April 29.

Medina treasure

From Professor Sean McGrail
Sir, Your article (feature, April 28) on the wreck of the P & O liner Medina describes the commercial salvaging of an evidently important and valuable cargo as a "gambler's paradise".

The 1973 Wrecks Act applies only within British territorial waters and thus presumably cannot be used to protect the Medina from this exploitation. But even within territorial waters there are difficulties in ensuring that the heritage underwater is scientifically excavated and made available on public display.

Under the Wrecks Act, which is administered by the Department of Transport, wreck sites may be designated as "historic", a status roughly equivalent to that of a scheduled ancient monument. The DoT has an archaeological diving unit, based at the University of St Andrews, which can monitor and advise those who are licensed to excavate these sites; but (unlike its land equivalent, the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission/English Heritage), the DoT has no funds to

inject into these excavations. In addition, the DoT has to treat artifacts from these historic sites as mere salvaged wreck, under the provision of part IX of the 1894 Merchant Shipping Act.

The result is that, with notable exceptions — the Mary Rose project, for example — the excavation of important sites is under-financed, and the information and artifacts recovered from them are not being made readily available to the public.

This unsatisfactory situation would be improved by the revision of the 1894 Merchant Shipping Act to make special provisions for historic wreck, and by discussions between the relevant cultural and commercial interests to see how public and private funds can best be made available for archaeological excavation of important wreck sites and the public display of material from them.

Yours faithfully,
SEAN MCGRAIL,
Institute of Archaeology,
36 Beaumont Street,
Oxford.
April 29.

Oldfield case

From Dr Gerald Silverman
Sir, Homosexual men of Oldfield's generation, whatever their professional future, learned early to lead a duplicitous life. That was society's fault. Some were very good at it, got hooked on it, and made careers of duplicity itself: society's gifts.

Quite logically, if their homosexuality was rumoured then doubts arose about their competence at the rest of espionage concealment. The blackmail bit is a peripheral red herring.

The paradox will always remain however, whatever happens to the current raucous rise in anti-homosexuality. You are only a really competent spy if you can deceive the vetting at recruitment and after, and it is time to go when you can do so no longer.

A truly unsafe spy is one with no secrets of his or her own.

Yours faithfully,
G. SILVERMAN,
11A Collingham Gardens, SW5.
April 26.

Balancing holidays

From the Reverend and Mrs Charles Hadley
Sir, This year's late Easter underlines again our May Bank holiday madness. Isn't it time to get our priorities right?

Let May Day (did anyone except Harold Wilson want it?) be consigned to oblivion and the Queen's official birthday be celebrated instead.

Let Whitens be the Whitsun holiday. And let autumn be the fun: Surely St Michael (Michaelmas, September 29) or St Francis (October 4) or even All Saints (November 1) will happily be the occasion for a little recreation before the rigours of winter.

A set number of days off is one thing. Holidays, as occasions to celebrate, should be something quite different.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES HADLEY,
FELICITY HADLEY,
The Rectory,
High Street, Blagdon, Bristol.

Care of children

From the Headmaster of Abingdon School
Sir, "French teachers are professors, not child-minders" — so we are loftily informed by Mr Peter Wilson (April 27). What sort of snobbery is this?

French educators may, possibly, draw a distinction between teaching and caring for children, though French teachers of my acquaintance do not generally seem unduly anxious to stand on the distinction; but it is central to the English tradition, at any rate, that teaching and caring are, if not exactly synonymous, at least entirely inter-dependent forms of activity.

It cannot be desirable, if indeed it is possible, to instruct a child without due regard for his or her personality, and to understand that personality at all completely you have to spend time and time on all sorts of petty human details and concerns.

The English style of boarding education can, at its best, represent a peculiar refinement of the concept of education as socialisation. Those of us who have the privilege of working in boarding schools can feel that we are all the more professors for being also full-time child-minders!

Yours faithfully,
M. ST JOHN PARKER,
Headmaster,
Abingdon School,
Abingdon, Oxfordshire.

ON THIS DAY

MAY 4 1896
The fall of Khartoum in 1896 was followed by the death of the mahdi, who was succeeded by the Khalifa Abdullah. Despite the defeat of his Dervish army at Tosti in 1898, he continued to wage war in Sudan and it was not until the battle of Omdurman on September 2, 1898, that his power was finally broken.

THE SUDAN EXPEDITION.

(From Our Special Correspondent.)
WADY HALFA, APRIL 18.
As I have explained in my last letter, four other correspondents and myself, having ridden from Assuan to Korosko, decided to send on our horses and camels by road from that place and to take passage on the first passing steamer, so as to reach Wady Halfa without delay. On April 10, the day after our arrival at Korosko, we learnt that five Government steamers laden with army rations had left Assuan for the south in the evening of the first of these, a storm-whizzer towing three deeply-loaded tugboats, came in sight and was signalled to stop by our friend the commandant in order that we might board her.

We steamed up the river for two nights and a day and reached Wady Halfa on the morning of April 12. The south wind blew strong during the voyage, so that we were outstripped by some of the many sailing tugboats, laden with munitions of war and sleepers for the railway, which drove rapidly through the opposing current, each under her two great lateen sails, belling out, trimmed one on either side, goosewinged. There appears to be now no lack of vessels for transport up the river so far as Wady Halfa, and the base can be supplied without delay. It was daylight when we passed the most memorable landmarks of this portion of the Nile — the village and battlefield of Tosti and the line of march of the gallant Nejumi still strewn with the bleached bones of his fanatical followers; and, further up, the marvellous rock temples of Abu Simbel, where the base camp is pitched, where the colossal statuary figures with impressive faces look out upon the Nile. The country was of the same character as that we had traversed on our ride from Korosko; on either side of us, as we ascended the river, stretched the thin green line of palms and various crops, irrigated by water-wheels, backed by the sand hills, the bare brown rocks, and the fantastic peaks of the desert.

Those among us who passed through Wady Halfa during the last campaign, on revisiting it now, express their astonishment at the great changes that have taken place within the last few years. The presence of energetic British officers here, as in many other waste places of the earth where we have the outposts of our Empire, has introduced civilization and prosperity; there is but little of the squalor of the East apparent at this station; everything is well ordered, and Wady Halfa, which a decade or so ago was a congregation of squalid mud huts, is now a pleasant place to look upon. We disembarked in front of the military lines, and the authorities placed at our disposal some of the houses which have been built for officers' quarters. The Egyptian Government has constructed extensive barracks at Wady Halfa capable of accommodating quite 4,000 men. These buildings are comfortable, wholesome, and well ventilated, and at present the 1st Battalion of the North Staffordshire Regiment as well as the Egyptian and Sudanese troops are quartered in them without undue crowding. The whole station has a smart, bright, and cleanly appearance, in great contrast, no doubt, to what it was in the old days. A pleasant and characteristic indication of British influence is seen in the gardens which surround the officers' quarters, where from the irrigated desert sand spring and blossom luxuriantly the roses, sunflowers, and other flowers of our own country.

Wady Halfa, at this season of the year, appears to be one of the windiest and driest places on earth. Since I have been here a strong wind, often freshening to a gale, has been ever blowing up the river.

In praise of aunts

From Mr Jack Adrian
Sir, Aunts (letters, April 24, 29). The acknowledged expert was P. G. Woodhouse, although he had a poor view of the breed as a whole. One, however, stands out like a good deed in a naughty world: Aunt Dahlia. So, for the benevolent aunt "dahlia". For the kind of aunt who eats broken bottles and kills rats with her teeth there can be no other word but "agathic".

Yours sincerely,
JACK ADRIAN,
Clematis Cottage,
Bury End Street,
Cradley, Nr Malvern,
Hereford & Worcester.

From Mr M. Knapp
Sir, "It is no use telling me there are good aunts and bad aunts. At core they are all alike. Sooner or later out pops the cloven hoof". Bertie Wooster's dictum (in *The Code of the Woosters*), first encountered many years ago, left me with a feeling, quite unworthy, that aunts as a class are somewhat suspect.

Yours sincerely,
MARTIN KNAPP,
1 Brookling Barn,
Aspington, Totnes, Devon.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 2: The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon attended the Rugby League Cup Final at Wembley Stadium where His Royal Highness was received by the President of the Rugby Football League (the Earl of Derby).

Major Rowan Jackson, RM was in attendance.

The Duke and Duchess of York this morning visited All-hallows School, Lyme Regis, where His Royal Highness opened the School's new Sports Hall.

The Duke and Duchess of York subsequently visited Jersey.

The Duke and Duchess of York were received at Jersey Airport by the Lieutenant-Governor of Jersey (His Excellency Admiral Sir William Phillips) and the Bailiff (Mr P.L. Cricht).

The Duke and Duchess of York started the Jersey International Air Race and witnessed an air display to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Jersey Airport.

In the evening Their Royal Highnesses attended a dinner given by the States of Jersey.

The Duke and Duchess of York, attended by Mrs John Floyd and Wing Commander Adam Wise, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the Save the Children Fund, this afternoon attended the Open Day at Trewithen Gardens, Gram-pound Road, near Truro.

Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Cornwall (the Viscount Falkland) and the Fund's Area Representative for Cornwall and West Devon (Mr K. Stead).

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, attended by Mrs Richard Carew Pole, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

May 3: The Duke and Duchess of York continued the visit to Jersey today.

Mrs John Floyd and Wing Commander Adam Wise were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 2: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Joint Patron, The Girls' Brigade, was present this afternoon at the Rally and Display at the Royal Albert Hall, SW7.

Mrs Michael Harvey was in attendance.

Royal visitor

Prince Michael of Kent is to make the eighth royal visit to the annual South of England agricultural show since it was first held in 1967.

He will present prizes and tour the 150-acre showground near Haywards Heath, Sussex, on June 12.

Clifford Longley

Keeping attuned to the fear of God

The music which accompanies the Government's famous "collapsing mountains" Aids television commercial is a haunting theme whose origins lie deep in the roots of Western culture, and which continues to intrude, in one form or another, into a world supposedly grown indifferent to such things.

It is the *Dies irae*. It goes back at least as far as 1250, and it will not go away. Today newspaper uses the words with Verdi's setting in its recent promotion commercial: the film *The Omen* and its variants uses the tune; it was part of the Oscar-winning score of *Amadeus*; and Rachmaninov was obsessed by it. The *Dies irae* exists in contemporary culture, having been expelled from music, it has been expelled from the natural habitat, the liturgy of the Roman Catholic Mass for the Dead, in 1968. This in itself is remarkable in a secular age: the words of the *Dies irae* are an uncompromising expression of religious dread and awe:

*Dies irae, dies illa,
Solve saeculum in favilla,
Teste David cum Sibylla,
Quantus tremor est futurus,
Quando iudex est venturus,
Cuncta stricte discussurus...*

Quite why today should think such a dreadful vision will sell newspapers is odd; but maybe advising executives do not know Latin.

The *Dies irae* is the name of both a rhyming Latin poem and a modal melodic line. Until the seventeenth century they came together, and that

is how the *Dies irae* is still sung in monasteries where the plainsong tradition survives.

The words are usually attributed to one Thomas, a Franciscan friar of Celano, who lived in the thirteenth century and who was certainly working from earlier less elaborate versions. Who composed the tune no one knows, but Gregorian chant, which is its genre, was around centuries before Thomas. (It was Gregory the Great who dispatched Augustine to Canterbury.)

The tune may be picked out on the piano with the sequence of equal notes, played at about the speed of the National Anthem, C B C A B G A. Most people will recognise it as the dramatic subject of the last movement of the *Symphonic Fantastique* by Berlioz, both in its natural tempo and as a macabre dance: Saint-Saens used it in a piece actually called *Dance Macabre*.

Respighi used it, as did lesser composers such as Dallapiccola and Bartok. Rachmaninov inserts into his *Variations on a Theme of Paganini*, his *Symphonic Dance*, and elsewhere; he could not get enough of it. And in the 1960s there was even a rock version.

In Hollywood film scores the *Dies irae* tune is the musical cliché for scary spooks and fire and brimstone, a tradition entirely due to Berlioz. But in the Government's Aids commercials the tune (without words) suggests someone is trying to make a much more serious point, so

controversial they dare not speak its name.

Dies irae is about the day of God's wrath, and the terrors of divine judgement on the sins of the wicked. It puts a new perspective on the churches' protests that the advertisements were too liberal and permissive. In the context of Aids, *Dies irae* is the musical equivalent of the Chief Constable of Manchester's famous "Judgement of God" diatribe. Perhaps the churches do not know Latin any more either.

Detached from the tune, the words have taken on a life of their own. Mozart made them the centrepiece of his *Requiem*, and thus, via the film *Amadeus*, Thomas Celano is entitled to some small share of a Hollywood Oscar. Cherubini is another in the long tradition which stretches from J.C. Bach to Andrew Lloyd Webber's 1985 *Requiem* via Verdi, Fauré (who cut most of it), Duruflé (who also cut it), Britten, and many others.

All these kept the ancient *sequentia* but contributed their own melodies. Surprisingly, no one seems to have put the *Dies irae* words back to the *Dies irae* tune: they now exist independently, each called *Dies irae*.

Fauré's reduced it to almost nothing, to achieve a more consoling and reassuring message to his *Requiem*, thereby anticipating the liturgical reformers who dropped altogether it from the official form of the *Requiem* Mass after the Second Vatican Coun-

cil, reversing the decision of the Council of Trent.

There are liturgists today who speak of the *Dies irae* as a melodramatic Gothic horror, the musical equivalent of one of those medieval wall paintings of the Last Judgement, all demons and pitchforks and souls in torment. But that may be nothing more than the current fashion in liturgical snobbery.

Indeed the *Dies irae* in the Latin Mass was the equivalent of some of Cranmer's finer cadences in the Book of Common Prayer funeral service, and both indicate an attitude to death and grief which declines to deaden all the pain in the name of kindness. Thomas Celano and Thomas Cranmer both believed that some souls go to hell, and all the living stand in peril of it.

It was C.G.Jung's opinion that certain archetypal religious ideas do not go away; they just go underground in the subconscious, to surface unexpectedly in disguise. The persistence of the *Dies irae*, or something it stands for, would seem to make a perfect example of this theory. Somewhere in the scheme of things there has to be an idea of divine wrath and final judgement, to make sense of the rest.

Dies irae stands for the no less persistent expression in common speech, the "fear of God". And both are protests at the contemporary idea of the non-judgemental God, the epitome of sentimental niceness.

Marriages

Mr F.P.H. de Zulueta and the Hon Mrs P. Wodehouse. The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of Our Most Holy Redeemer and St Thomas More, Cheyne Row, of Mr Francis de Zulueta, son of Sir Philip and the Hon Lady de Zulueta, and the Hon Mrs Pandora Wodehouse, daughter of Mrs W.J. Germaine and stepdaughter of Mr W.J. Germaine. Mr Denis Patrick Wall officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her stepfather, was attended by Miss Jacaranda Germaine and Miss Tara Germaine. The Hon John Vaughan was best man.

Captain P.A. Duncan and Miss M.V. Frefel. The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of St Peter and St Paul, Lavenham, Suffolk, of Captain Patrick Atholl Duncan, RHA, younger son of the late Major Atholl Duncan and the Hon Mrs Duncan, of Marlborough House, 28 Sloane Street, London, and Miss Margrit Victoria Frefel, daughter of Mr and Mrs Franz Frefel, of Rookwood, near Lavenham, and 1001 May Tower, 7 May Road, Hong Kong. The Rev Dennis Pearce officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Philip Firmin. Zoe Firmin, Katie Sheene and Madeleine Sheene. Mr Hugo Morgan was best man. A guard of honour was formed by officers of the 1st Field Regiment Royal Horse Artillery.

A reception was held at Chinnings, Great Melford, Suffolk, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr R.C. Thornton and Miss J.M. Carlisle. The marriage took place on Saturday at St Andrew's, Sheffield, of Mr Rupert Thornton, elder son of Major and Mrs P.C. Thornton, and Miss Jane Carlisle, daughter of Sir Michael and Lady Carlisle. The Rev Peter Chave officiated.

Captain R.B. Cameron and Miss E.E. Buckley. The marriage took place on May 2, at Bagshot, between Captain Robin Cameron, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, second son of Mr and Mrs John Cameron, and Miss Catherine Buckley, eldest daughter of Mrs Gillian Buckley. The Rev Peter Thackray officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by Mr James Bridge, was attended by Clytie Cameron and Victoria Buckley. Mr Paul Cameron was best man.

A reception was held at the Headquarters Mess, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, Deepcut.

Mr J.C. Hadrell and Dr K.C.V. Sergeant. The marriage took place on Saturday, May 2, 1987, at Our Lady of the Wayside Church, Shirley, Solihull, between Mr Julian Hadrell, elder son of Mr and Mrs H.F.J. Hadrell, of Dorridge, and Dr Katharine Sergeant, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs D.W. Sergeant, of Solihull. The nuptial Mass was celebrated by Mr P.J. O'Mahony.

Mr N.J.S. Wood-Dow and Miss J.M. Goldie. The engagement is announced between Nicholas James Wood-Dow, of Wraybury, Berkshire, and Judith Margaret, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Goldie, of Berge Regis, Dorset.

Mr O.A. Waterman and Miss A.J. Rosewood. The engagement is announced between Officer, son of Mr and Mrs Trevor Waterman, and Alexa, elder daughter of Mrs Shimmam Cowan and Mr Norman Rosewood.

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OBITUARY

PROF PETER BIRD

Accurate company accounting

Professor Peter Bird, Professor of Accounting at the University of Kent since 1970, died on April 24. He was 52.

His main interest was in financial reporting (the accurate rendering of company accounts), which allowed him to combine academic research with a practical contribution to the accountancy profession.

His major work, *Accountability: Standards in Financial Reporting*, was published in 1973, and even today the contents are as topical, and the insights as pertinent, as when it was first published.

Peter Bird was born on October 8, 1924, and was educated at Altrincham Grammar School and the London School of Economics, where he graduated in 1956. After national service, he qualified as a chartered accountant.

He returned to the LSE in 1963 as a lecturer in accounting, and three years later moved to the University of Kent to found the accounting department. He was elected to a personal chair in 1970.

He did financial reporting for non-profit making organizations, starting with public utilities and extending to ad-

vising government on accounting for nationalized industries.

He handled the accounts of a number of charities, and with Peter Morgan-Jones, published, in 1981, *Financial Reporting by Charities*. Through the pages of *Palmer's Company Law* he also communicated to lawyers the mysteries and problems of accounting practice.

He served for a time on the council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, and until his death continued to advise the institute's technical committee. He was also president of the south eastern society of chartered accountants.

To students and colleagues Bird was much more than a powerful intellect: he was a friend to whom they turned for wisdom or quiet humour.

He was an active member of his local church, advised the diocese of Canterbury on financial matters, and was a governor of King's School, Rochester. He also found time to pursue his interests in windmills, railways and photography.

His wife, Pam, and two sons survive him.

TRIX TERWINDT

Trix Terwindt, a Dutch wartime, secret agent, who was captured on her first mission for M19, and survived two years of imprisonment and torture, died at Oostgeest, near Leiden, on April 8. She was 76.

She was a KLM air hostess in her middle-20s when Germany overran the Netherlands in May 1940. She was keen to play a part in resistance, and managed to escape to London, where she was recruited by Airey Neave into M19, the secret escape service.

Neave was attracted by her air of calm and competence. He explained to her how she could help to organize escape lines running from Holland into Belgium, where M19 already had active posts at work.

As no other channel was open, she had to reach the Netherlands by a parachute dropped by the Special Operations Executive. Nobody in London knew that SOE's work into Holland had at this stage been completely penetrated by the Germans. Early on February 14, 1943, she dropped from an RAF bomber into the arms of the Gestapo.

Her training as an air hostess, secret agent, who was captured on her first mission for M19, and survived two years of imprisonment and torture, died at Oostgeest, near Leiden, on April 8. She was 76.

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MR CYRIL PEARL

Mr Cyril Pearl, the Australian newspaperman who became known throughout the world for his books of colourful history and biography, has died at the age of 80.

His best known title was *The Girl with the Swansdown*, an account of Victorian prostitution. The book that caused the greatest stir in Australia was *Wild Men of Sydney*, which *The Times Literary Supplement* described when it was published in 1959 as giving Pearl "an excuse for dusting and displaying some of the extraordinary political and other scandals which dripped their way through the columns of Sydney newspapers about the turn of the century."

Scandal, and low life, were grist to Pearl's mill. His other books included *Bawdy Burns* and *Victorian Patchwork*, which was largely concerned with the bawdiness of the Victorians.

He constructed a biography - *Morrison of Peking* - out the

255 boxes in the Mitchell Library in Sydney of the papers, ranging from letters and telegrams to pawn tickets, of George Ernest Morrison, who was *The Times* correspondent in Peking from 1897 to 1912.

Admittedly much of Pearl's interest in Morrison lay in Morrison's well-documented sexual prowess, which equalled his heroic journalistic achievements.

Cyril Pearl was born in Melbourne and educated at Hale College, Perth, and Melbourne University. He joined the *Melbourne Star* in 1933 and was among the most influential of Australian journalists over the next 22 years, ten of them as the first editor of the *Sydney Sunday Telegraph*. From 1955 he devoted himself to book writing.

His last book, *The Dunera Scandal*, was on the wartime deportation from Britain of several thousand people of German and Austrian origin.

MISS BETTY HAIG

Miss Betty Lindsay Haig, the former rally and sports car driver, has died at the age of 81.

A great-niece of Field Marshal The Earl Haig, she started her driving career in 1936 and won a gold medal in a rally held by the Germans in conjunction with the Berlin Olympic Games.

She was a regular competitor in the Paris-St Raphael international women's rally, taking part eight times and winning it once.

She competed in the first post-war Monte Carlo rally, in 1949, and came second in the Ladies Cup. In the same year

she won the one-and-a-half litre class and the Ladies Cup in the International Alpine Trials.

She was the last woman to compete in the 24-hour race at Le Mans in 1951, and won the last Ladies Cup. She drove for Ferrari.

After 1958 she concentrated on racing at Goodwood and Silverstone, hill climbs and sprints.

Correction
Mr John Silk attended Trinity Hall, Cambridge, and not Trinity College, as stated in our obituary of April 27.

Nature notes
Flocking back for summer

The last summer visitors are coming in. Swifts are back, screaming across the sky. Flocks of sand-martins are digging out nest-holes, where they can find undisturbed cliffs of sand or gravel. They buzz in front of the cliff face like brown insects. Garden warblers are singing deep in rhododendrons or honeysuckle; blackcaps, which have a similar song, lit more often from tree top to tree top, a few pairs of marsh harriers are back on the Suffolk coast; they sweep across the reed beds on massive wings, suddenly turning and pointing on a frog or a mouse.

After the April sunshine, wild flowers are more advanced than last year. Greater stitchwort is

already out in broad banks of white blossom. Bluebells are up and about to open. The first pink flowers of lady's smock can be seen in damp fields. Near the sea, the sturdy plants of alexanders are two feet tall and crowned with yellow flowers.

Many horse-chestnuts are already covered with white pyramids of bloom; and round yellow catkins dangle beneath the brilliant green leaves on the beeches. Orange-tip butterflies, which hibernated as chrysalids, are emerging and warming their wings in the sun.

DJM



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Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Bartolomeo Cristofano, pioneer of piano making, Padua, 1655; Sir Thomas Lawrence, President of the Royal Academy 1820-30, Bristol, 1769; Thomas Henry Molyneux, biologist, London, 1825.

DEATHS: Georges Enesco, composer and violinist, Paris, 1955; Sir Osbert Sitwell, writer, Florence 1969.

Parliament this week
Commons (12.30): Proceeding on the Bill, Landlord and Tenant (No 2) Bill, remaining clause, Motion relating to Education (School Teachers' Pay and Conditions of Employment) Bill, second reading.

House of Lords (2.30): Debate on the Bill, National Health Service (Wages) Bill, second reading.

House of Commons (12.30): Proceeding on the Bill, Landlord and Tenant (No 2) Bill, remaining clause, Motion relating to Education (School Teachers' Pay and Conditions of Employment) Bill, second reading.

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THE ARTS

Survival course

Bertrand Russell gave Socrates only alpha-minus for courage, deducting points for the great man's "strong certainty" that his soul would survive death. There are secular humanists around now who would agree with him. To an agnostic, bleakly contemplating his own death, a belief in an after life, in Heaven above, is an unfair advantage.

But then, outside those sanctified Sunday walks, Heaven is rarely talked about, at least not by the respectable. These days only zealots, curiously self-described as born-again Christians, and gaudy skinheads in saffron robes, ever trouble the air with thoughts of paradise, for which behaviour, of course, they are widely regarded as the new vulgarisms.

So it was admirably challenging of the BBC's religious programmes department to

TELEVISION

come up with a television series called *When I Get to Heaven* (BBC1). Not, mark you, *If I Get to Heaven*, let alone the fashionable scepticism of *Is there a Heaven?* And this in an age of a ecclesiastical doubt when the new theologians define God as the state of ultimate concern and Heaven as a state of mind.

In fact, the programme's title is a mild deception. It is a series of 35-minute interviews with famous or distinguished people who are placed, as it were, at Heaven's gate and asked to review their own lives, like the mythical drowsing man. The interviewer, a sort of benign gatekeeper, is Bishop Richard Holloway.

Last night's subject, Sir Laurence Van Der Post, talked as though his life, if not his after-life, depended on it. He talked about his South African boyhood, of being sentenced to death by the Japanese (he talked his way out of it), of exploring the dream-world of the Kalahari bushmen and of discovering the doors of perception unlocked by Jung. His idea of Heaven, as something sensed when the walls of consciousness are at their most fragile, was the more reassuring for being vague.

Michael Dean

The spectacle of old Egypt

A lavish production of *Aida*, beneath the temple of Rameses II at Luxor, has its own kind of drama. Gavin Bell reports

You could tell that Rameses II was not impressed. Throughout one of the most lavish productions in opera history, his colossal gazed down with massive indifference as hundreds of Pharaonic warriors, priests and Nubian slaves swirled around his temple at Luxor, the site of ancient "hundred-gated" Thebes.

Unfortunately, a discerning audience of more than 3,000, who had paid about a million dollars to watch a gala performance of Verdi's *Aida* in its authentic Theban setting on Saturday, was also disappointed. Despite a spectacular procession along an illuminated avenue of sphinxes that drew cries of "bravo", the event was marred by inadequate sound reproduction, barking dogs, a reluctant obelisk and a crate of soft drinks.

As a spectacle, it was magnificent. As a musical drama, it was a flop. Plácido Domingo and Maria Chiara, as the doomed lovers, struggled valiantly to project their passion and tragedy, but to little avail. The power of stirring arias and poignant duets was lost to all but the assembled royalty in the presidential box, and those who had paid £400 for front-row seats.

The first act came perilously close to fiasco when Domingo's declaration of love in "Celeste Aida" evaporated like mist over the adjacent Nile. It was almost like watching a silent movie. The acoustic improved in the remaining three acts, but not enough to overcome the occasional canine contribution, and an altercation with a bus driver who had honked his horn on the riverside corniche. It could have been worse. Until the final dress rehearsal, the organizers had been struggling with a labyrinth of artistic and logistical problems that would have done justice to a Cecil B. DeMille extravaganza.

The Egyptian Antiquities Organization objected — they felt the fragile temple ruins would be weakened by the thousands of spectators and performers. There was a succession of technical hitches and an unseemly row with the local authorities over their cut from ticket sales. Dennis Wayne, the American choreographer, was over-



Spectacular — but is it opera? Plácido Domingo (far right) as Radames, the doomed lover, is also doomed to inaudibility beneath a statue of Rameses

heard to remark, after a rehearsal, that half of the 50 dancers of the Verona Opera were stupid and the other half could not dance. Earlier he complained he had had to re-choreograph the entire opera in three days, after learning that men and women are not allowed to dance together in Egypt.

A British engineer said the 40,000 seats had been held up for three weeks at Alexandria by an unexpected demand for £30,000 in transportation costs. Maria Chiara's husband furiously berated a hotel manager for a lack of hot water with which to remove her heavy make-up.

At the temple, efforts to direct 300 overawed Egyptian soldiers in their unfamiliar roles as Pharaonic warriors ended in chaos. On arrival 100 horses kicked up clouds of dust that obscured both stages and would have given the audience a good impression of being caught in a Saharan sandstorm. In the end, it was decided to reduce the hosts of cavalry and soldiery by two thirds,

and to lay woven mats around the stages and the orchestra dais.

The bemused but helpful Egyptian authorities did their best. Traffic around the area was banned, aircraft flight-paths were re-routed, mosques were instructed to remain silent during the performance (no mean feat during the holy month of Ramadan), and street lights along the corniche were switched off.

The arrival of Domingo mid-way through the first dress rehearsal eased some of the tension. Excitement mounted throughout the day of the performance as royalty of varying degrees of importance swept into the luxury hotels. Rumours abounded that the Prince of Wales was flying from Italy. Liz Taylor had been spotted in Cairo and was on her way. Princess Stephanie of Monaco was definitely in the Sheraton. Counterfeit tickets were said to be exchanging hands for \$1,000. In the event, it was Queen Sophia of Spain who arrived to take her place in the presidential

box with Queen Noor of Jordan and Stephanie's sister, Princess Caroline.

As the audience settled, spotlights illuminated the soaring outer walls and columns of the 3,500-year-old temple and the hieroglyphics of its remaining obelisk, the twin of that which stands in the Place de la Concorde. A succession of speeches by local dignitaries caused a stir of unease, as nobody could hear what they were saying, which led to gibes and cat-calls, gradually swelling in a crescendo of drumming feet. The speakers smiled graciously, evidently unaware that this was not a gesture of approval.

The climax was slightly spoiled by the failure of Nubian slaves to raise a second obelisk in time with the music. The hydraulic machinery brought in to facilitate their task moved agonizingly slowly, and the edifice was still rising after the act had ended. Less forgivable, in the view of some spectators, was the sight of a crate of soft drinks that had been left beside the obelisk and

sat there inconspicuously throughout the performance.

Applause at the end of the five-hour event was polite rather than enthusiastic, and there were no calls for encores. By that time it was 2am, and most of the audience was cold and tired. The prevailing view was that it had been a splendid spectacle and the cast had probably sung well, if only they could have been heard properly.

It is anybody's guess, though, whether Fawzi Mirwali, a Vienna-based Egyptian oil trader and carpet dealer, will recoup the £6.25 million he claims to have spent in staging the series of 10 performances.

Certainly the occasion did not augur well for the remaining performances, featuring singers of less renown than Domingo and Chiara. It is to be hoped that improved acoustics will be available to the National Theatre when it takes its production of *Antony and Cleopatra*, starring Anthony Hopkins and Judi Dench, to the pyramids later this year.

DANCE

Intravenous Riverside

Scream Gardner Centre, Brighton

Two dance productions on successive nights showed very different approaches to making a theatrical spectacle. Both use sexual desire as a motivating force but there all similarities end.

Jorma Uotinen, who got the Brighton Festival's dance programme off to an excellent start, is Finnish. His British debut reveals his talent as austere and controlled but theatrical for all that. His *Scream* is virtually a 45-minute solo because, although he is supported by Helena Lindgren, she makes only brief, static appearances.

The music is Schubert's "Death and the Maiden" Quartet, and I have never come across a more imaginative choreographic use of this frequently-danced score. Uotinen follows the music in his emotions, not his steps. Although some passing moments reveal that he must have a strong technical background, he is more concerned to construct his dance from simple, expressive gestures.

Matthew Hawkins always went in for outrageous costumes. Now that he has gathered a company, Inherent Dancers Group, he is staging spectacles on a shoestring budget. *Intravenous* goes from a musical comedy version of the *toilette* of *Venus*, via a sketch that inverts the story of *Eve*, to a "March to the Scaffold" with Hawkins as a baroque punk germ assisted by a "naughty virus" attacking an immune system.

The plot frequently becomes muddled but there is a lot of lively, camp humour. He makes fun of ballet among other targets, with point shoes (worn by men of course) and tates of unexpected cut. All the same, his own dancing, tantalizingly brief, shows his classical background as well as his rebellious outlook, and the best section of the show is the long, abstract finale to disco music, during which he ingeniously conceals to some extent the discrepant abilities of his enthusiastic cast.

John Percival

ROCK

Bruce/Nannini/Sting Schauspielhaus, Hamburg

The gathering of such an unlikely trio of talents, to perform a selection of songs from the work of Bertolt Brecht and Kurt Weill, was the brainchild of the New Age composer and conductor Eberhard Schoener who is, loosely speaking, a German equivalent of Jean-Michel Jarre.

The idea was for a unique gala event: two shows on the night, recorded for German television, but consigned to history thereafter. It would indeed have been hard to duplicate the sense of occasion that prevailed in the intimate, curfewed splendour of this baroque theatre as the curtain rose on Schoener's traditional orchestra, numbering 40 or more musicians, playing the overture to *The Threepenny Opera*.

Sting appeared, a vision of the New European Man dressed suitably in black, to sing "Mac the Knife", and wrestled good-humouredly



Unlikely devotees of the Brecht/Weill canon: Sting (left), Jack Bruce and Gianna Nannini

with the lyrics, which for most of the show were to be performed in the original German. While the voguish interest in Weill has led to a variety of souped up versions of his work by rock musicians, notably on the 1985 collection *Lost in the Stars*, on which Sting participated, this performance adhered to the spirit of the works as written.

The Italian rock star Gianna Nannini, another long-standing devotee of the Brecht/Weill canon, made her strong-

gest contributions singing a selection of material from *Mahagonny*, including a dramatic performance of "The Alabama Song". Also dressed in black, and with a rough edge to her sensuous voice, she carried something of the streetwise mien that is associated with Christie Hynde. There was a powerful chemistry to her duet with Sting on "Love Song".

But it was Jack Bruce, now a German resident, who was the biggest surprise. He sang

"Lost in the Stars" fortissimo with towering conviction, and then played an inspired instrumental arrangement of "Bilbao Song" on bass guitar. His resonant vocal style and familiarity with the language did the most justice to the alternately biting choruses and shambling fairground cadences of Weill's often sleazy lyrics to the decadent *Weltanschauung* of an era so often recalled in the Eighties.

David Sinclair

who miraculously gets away without doing so.

This successful head-in-sand manoeuvre may help to explain Strauss's attraction to the subject in 1936-37. And his wish to ignore what was happening may not be irrelevant to the curious sense in *Daphne* of a composer idling. So much of Strauss plays itself in the twilight; but usually one can see the darkness approaching. Here, though, it is as if we had been invited indoors, the curtains fully closed, for a comfortable game of charades.

Of course, one can hardly castigate Strauss for that; and yet it is odd that the game should be played so much with figures from his earlier operas: the lucid orchestral opulence of *Ariadne*, the mother-daughter relationships I have already suggested, the crucial intrusion of a dominant tenor outsider as in *Elektra* or *Ariadne* again. In every respect the feebleness of the same gesture in *Daphne* might be taken for a disavowal, as if Strauss were saying: Look, I didn't mean it; these things are not so important... But *Daphne* is too weak a being to damage her elder sisters.

Philip Prowse's designs and production give her every help at first, with a charming scene of gilt-faced sheep and high hedges around a central plat-

form, and with labourers in stolid charcoal-grey to offset *Daphne's* floating white cotton. If in its later stages the production goes haywire, it certainly has some excuse in the inconsequential character of the plot. But ladies in flowing robes rushing from one side of the stage to the other are never a good idea, especially if they look like Turandots dressed in imitation *Étér*, and the appearance of Apollo as a schoolmaster and then as a gent in white tie is lacking somewhat in plausibility. The transformation scene is unmagical, too.

Helen Field gives an effective central performance of erotic virginity and, though she could afford a little more radiance, even the moments of upper-register harshness add to the neurotic effect. The Apollo is no godly interloper, but Peter Jeffes as Leukippos recovered from a poor start to sing out proudly in the last scene, even while still sounding baritone. Sean Rea contributes a steady Peneios and Patricia Payne a characterful Gaea. David Lloyd-Jones, conducting, keeps this potentially sluggish score on the go and, though his brass had an unhappy night on Saturday, there was a dependable pastoral pleasure in the oboes and clarinets.

Paul Griffiths

The delusion of communication

RADIO

Most of us were astonished when the Argentines, all out of the blue, walked into the Falklands in 1982. And then to find ourselves embroiled in a war at a distance of 8,000 miles for the sake of a dwindling population of less than 2,000 on some extremely uninviting territory in the South Atlantic — surely it need never have come to that.

We were of course the victims of the Great Communications Delusion: inundated with information of all kinds, our capacity for handling it is quickly swamped — yet we live in the belief that we know what is going on. On top of that we make no allowance for the fact that the information we do get is already highly selected. A topic has to reach a certain pretty intense level of excitement before it qualifies in the minds of newsmen for much attention. South Africa, for instance, seems to be in a state of permanent qualification, while any tyrannies practised by black African governments on their own people rarely seem to qualify at all. Starving Ethiopians rapidly became a media event; four million or so Afghan refugees do not. Somehow the non-qualifiers, no matter how deserving of attention, lack an element of drama and, until 1982, it was the same with the Falklands. Then suddenly they made the headlines. Unaware that what we then saw was only the culmination of a long, unreported and therefore non-existent process, we were accordingly astonished.

It is the ingredients of that process which Michael Charlton in *The Little Platoon — The Long Struggle for the Falklands* (Radio 3, Sundays)

is beginning to lay bare. Two programmes in (out of a total of eight), it is already clear that this is a most valuable series. The problem of the Falklands, we now realize, goes back a couple of hundred years. In 1771 Dr Johnson, no less, was arguing that this "tempest-beaten barrenness" was not worth a fight. Mr Charlton has sketched in that distant past, but his main interest is in the last 17 years. To pursue this he has spoken to ministers and officials who were involved, both British and Argentinian, and they are filling in the details of an engrossing canvas. Early on it seemed that the dispute was close to solution. The islanders were against it, but they would come round. They did not, and, as Argentina's political complexion became increasingly unattractive, both Commons and Cabinet turned against any idea at all of yielding sovereignty. At that point few people envisaged war, but we are beginning to see the innumerable pieces drop into place, which eventually rendered it inevitable.

The impression, authentic I am sure, is of a process in which many strands interweave — some dominating for a while before giving way to others. Michael Charlton and his producer, Carby Wearing, have made a splendid job of organizing their material and Mr Charlton's own narration is a joy: low-key and often witty, it has very largely avoided that ponderousness which has sometimes marred his broadcasts in the past.

While *The Little Platoon* is at home exposing the uncertainties, contradictions and ambiguities of international politics, it seemed to me that David Henshaw, presenting *First Lady of the Revolution* (Radio 4, Tuesday, repeated Friday), would have preferred Rosario Murillo, wife of President Ortega of Nicaragua, to have been easier to classify. The leading figures of revolutionary governments should be austere, drab if possible and a little humourless. Well, Mrs Gorbachov has shown otherwise, while Rosario plainly started out with a taste for

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Implied authorization point not put to jury

Regina v Galvin
Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Farquharson and Mr Justice Gatehouse
[Judgment May 1]

A jury trying the managing director of a company for breach of the Official Secrets Act 1911 were not directed to inquire whether they were sure that the Ministry of Defence had impliedly authorized dissemination of a "restricted" document — a manufacturer's manual relating to the Rolls-Royce Olympus aero engine.

Consequently the convictions of Peter Anthony Galvin, managing director of Aviation and Marine International Ltd (AMIL), for unlawful reception of a document contrary to section 2(2) of the 1911 Act and conspiracy to use information for the benefit of a foreign power (Argentina) contrary to section 1(1) of the Criminal Law Act 1977 and section 2(1)(a) of the Official Secrets Act 1920, were quashed.

The appellant was convicted at Warwick Crown Court (Judge Harrison-Hall and a jury) and sentenced to six months' imprisonment on the count of unlawful reception and one day concurrent for the conspiracy. He received two years' imprisonment on his plea of guilty to corruption and handling.

The Court of Appeal held that the words of sections 2(1)(a) and 2(2) of the 1911 Act mandatorily defined the type of material which was protected, the type of person who was under a duty not to communicate it, the circumstances under which the recipient of such communication might be guilty of an offence and the matters which might offer him an excuse.

Section 2(2) of the 1911 Act provides: "If any person receives any... document or information knowing or having reasonable ground to believe at the time when he receives it that the... document or information is communicated to him in contravention of the Act... he shall be guilty of an offence."

Section 2(1) provides: "(1) If any person having in his possession or control... any... document... which he has obtained... owing to his position as a person who holds... a contract made on behalf of Her Majesty or... is... employed under a person who holds... such... contract... (a) communicates the... document... to any person, other than a person to whom he is authorized to communicate it shall be guilty of [an offence]."

Mr Jonathan Caplan, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Jeremy Roberts, QC, and Mr David Farrer, QC, for the Crown.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the reserved judg-

ment of the court, said that the Olympus engine was used to power the Vulcan bomber operated by the RAF until the aircraft became obsolete in 1980 and was still used in Concorde. In 1981 on the demise of the Vulcan aircraft the Ministry of Defence sold a large quantity of Olympus aero-engine parts to a company dealing in second-hand aero-engine spares.

The tender document contained Rolls-Royce part numbers and the corresponding MoD/Nato reference numbers. Some parts themselves had the MoD and Nato numbers indelibly stamped on them. Many of the parts were common to the Olympus aero and marine engines.

At about the time of and after the Falklands war, Argentina wanted spares for its Olympus marine engines. Despite the fact that, surprisingly, no statutory embargo existed, Rolls-Royce refused to supply spares directly or indirectly to the Argentines.

Eventually the Argentines started negotiations with CAS. Rolls-Royce refused point blank to supply them with any spares. Another firm, Taylors of Stafford had large quantities of the Olympus parts but it proved impossible without a copy of the Olympus AP, the manufacturer's manual, which they did not have, to identify whether they had those parts required by the Argentines.

CAS therefore set about obtaining the document by somewhat devious means, no doubt believing, wrongly, that by supplying those parts to the Argentines they were committing a criminal offence, and so wishing to conceal so far as possible the nature of their business.

A Mr Tucker, manager of military projects in CAS, had a friend named Colin Bain, who had contacts with the MoD and one of his contacts was a chief technician called Owen in a War Office technical library which contained a copy of the Olympus AP. Bain got Owen to lend him the Olympus AP.

It was photocopied with the word "restricted" having first been obliterated from all the pages on which it appeared. The original then went back to Owen, who had no idea what had been happening to it meanwhile. He of course got no reward. Bain did. The amount was not clear.

It was important to see the extent to which by early summer 1984 the Olympus AP had become available to people outside the circle of those to whom publication had originally been restricted.

No restrictions were placed by the MoD on resale by Taylors or on dissemination of the tender document.

The prosecution case was that when Bain communicated the Olympus AP to CAS he was acting in contravention of section 2(1)(a) and Galvin knew or

had reasonable cause to believe that that was the case.

The document was obtained by Bain as described in section 2(1)(a) because he obtained it owing to his employment under contract to MoD, that is, a contract made on behalf of her Majesty.

There was evidence on which the jury could properly conclude so as to feel sure that he was not authorized to communicate it to CAS or Galvin. He communicated it to CAS and Galvin.

Galvin, to turn back to section 2(2), had reasonable cause to believe that the document was communicated to him in contravention of section 2(1)(a). Mr Caplan submitted to the trial judge that there was no case for the appellant to answer. That submission was rejected by the judge and Mr Caplan contended that that decision was wrong.

He based much of his argument on the fact that, in the contents of the prosecution were correct, the reception of all sorts of documents and information might well fall foul of the Act when the information or document might be freely available to all and sundry and could not possibly be regarded as either "official" or "secret".

He suggested that Parliament could not have intended that those sections should cast their net so wide and he drew attention to the long title of the Official Secrets Act 1889, which was the precursor of the 1911 Act.

His Lordship said that one could have regard to the title of a statute to help solve an ambiguity in the body of it, but it was not open to a court to use the title to restrict what was otherwise the plain meaning of the words of the statute simply because they seemed to be unduly wide.

Mr Caplan sought to derive help from *dicta* of Mr Justice Marchand in *R v Boyer* (1948) 94 CCR 191 a decision of a five-judge Quebec Court of Queen's Bench (Appeal Side). His judgment dissented from the judgments of the majority and, in any case, what he said did not accord with the *dicta* of Mr Justice Avory in *R v Crisp and Homewood* (1919) 93 JP 121 which, in their Lordships' view, correctly expressed the law.

The words of sections 2(1)(a) and 2(2) of the Act were not susceptible to the interpretation which the appellant sought to put on them. They unambiguously defined the type of material which was protected, the type of person who was under a duty not to communicate it, the circumstances under which the recipient of such communication might be guilty of an offence and the matters which might offer him an excuse.

However desirable it might be for those sections to be construed in the way that Mr Caplan invited their Lordships

to construe them, it would be going beyond their proper powers to do so.

That, however, was not the end of the matter. One of the matters which the prosecution had to prove under section 2(1)(a) was that Bain, the communicator of the information, was not authorized to communicate it to the recipient, Galvin.

Authorization might be either express or implied. No difficulty arose over the express aspect.

Implied authorization was not so easy to define. There were obvious parallels with the situation in civil law where a person who had received confidential information from another was under an obligation (enforceable by action) not to disclose that information or use it for his own or someone else's benefit: *Franchi v Franchi* ((1967) RPC 149) and *Interfirm Comparison (Australia) Pty Ltd v Law Society of New South Wales* ((1977) RPC 137).

The provisions of the 1911 Act caused enough trouble without additional complications. In the present case there were two such complications.

All or almost all of those concerned with the transactions were, it seemed, under the erroneous impression that the sale of spare parts for the Olympus engine to the Argentines was illegal. There was, as a result, some understandable confusion on the part of the defendants, civilian witnesses and the police witnesses as to what Bain was or was not authorized to do with the manual.

Chief Technician Owen took the view that he had only "authorized" Bain to use the manual for the purpose for which Bain had, falsely, said he was borrowing it and that Bain was, therefore, not authorized to pass on the manual to Galvin.

That was not the real issue in the case.

The true question for the jury was — leaving aside the feeling that this information should not have been used for the benefit of the Argentines, and leaving aside what Owen thought he was authorizing — whether the MoD by disseminating the manual and the information contained in it as widely as they had already done and without restriction as to its further use, had or might have impliedly authorized any one who came into possession of it to make such use of it as that person saw fit.

That was a question of fact for the jury. As the evidence stood the jury might have decided the point either way. There was certainly sufficient evidence to justify their finding that there was no such implied authorization.

The judge was correct to reject the submission of no case. The case that remained was whether the jury were given a

sufficiently clear direction on the point in issue. Their Lordships hastened to say that the judge had their sympathy. He was faced with the unenviable task of trying to explain the sections in a way which the jury could understand and he was relying on the way in which the prosecution had advanced their propositions. Their Lordships did not criticize him in any way.

The result was, however, that everything was said to hinge on what Owen authorized Bain to do and on how Owen wanted any dissemination of his manual to be restricted. On that basis the result was a foregone conclusion.

A proper approach was for the jury to inquire whether they were sure that the MoD had not by their actions impliedly authorized the general dissemination of the document to any one who might be interested. What Owen himself might have thought was only a part of the evidence, and was not the governing factor.

That was a fatal misdirection. It was agreed on all hands that the same considerations applied to the conspiracy count as applied to the other count.

The result was that the appeal had to be allowed and the conviction on each of the two counts had to be quashed.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Warwick.

Rent application was valid

Staines Warehousing Co Ltd v Montague Executor & Trustee Co Ltd

Before Lord Justice Fox, Lord Justice Nourse and Sir Denis Buckley
[Judgment April 30]

Where, for the operation of a rent review clause, the lease required the determination of the open market rent by a surveyor to be nominated by the President... of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors upon the application of the landlord to be made not later than three months before the relevant rent review date.

By paragraph 6 "if the landlord... shall neglect to make [the application] then any notice already given by the landlord to the tenant" of an intention to review the rent should be void and of no effect.

It was common ground that time was of the essence for the purposes of paragraph 6.

No agreement having been reached between the parties on the review rent, the landlord's agents wrote to the president on May 30, 1984, saying that they were making, in accordance with the schedule, "an in time only application for the appointment by the president of an expert surveyor to determine a revised rent for the... premises at September 29, 1984", the relevant rent review date.

The tenant was not informed of the letter and remained in ignorance of it until after the expiry of the time limit prescribed in paragraph 3.

In December the agents signed the RICS form issued for

The River Rima

Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Woolf
[Judgment May 1]

Containers leased to a shipowner which were normally delivered direct to shippers for stuffing under a leasing agreement which contained no provision that they should be loaded on to vessels belonging to the shipowner were not "goods... supplied to a ship for her operation" within section 20(2)(m) of the Supreme Court Act 1981 so as to render a claim against the shipowners for damages for conversion and breach of contract in relation to the containers maintainable as an action *in rem*, nor was the claim within section 21(4) of the Act.

The Court of Appeal so held (Lord Justice Nourse expressing no view as to the effect of section 21(4)) in giving reasons for having allowed, on April 13, an appeal by the owners of the *River Rima*, Nigerian National Shipping Line Ltd, against the refusal by Mr Justice Sheen on April 3 to set aside a writ *in rem* issued by the plaintiffs, Tiphook Container Rental Co Ltd, and discharge the arrest of the *River Rima*.

Mr Richard Aikens, QC and Mr Lionel Persey for the ship-

owners; Mr Jonathan Sumption, QC and Mr Mark Hapgood for the plaintiffs.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the jurisdiction of the Admiralty Court was governed by sections 20 and 21 of the Supreme Court Act 1981.

The shipowners owned a number of vessels capable of carrying containerized cargoes. They had a number of contracts whereby they leased containers from their owners including one with the plaintiffs.

That specified various depots throughout the world at which containers could be picked up and redelivered. It was wholly silent as to the use to be made of the containers, whether by land or by sea.

Mr Justice Sheen had held that the court had no jurisdiction under section 20(2)(m), which was now accepted, but that paragraph (m) did give the court jurisdiction, the containers being "goods... supplied to a ship for her operation". Accordingly he had dismissed an application for the writ to be set aside and for the arrest of the vessel to be discharged.

As there was no clear connection between the containers and the *River Rima* the plaintiffs were driven to argue that the

effect of section 6 of the Interpretation Act 1978 was to cause paragraph (m) to be read as "any claim in respect of goods or materials supplied to a ship or ships for her or their operation or maintenance" and that it accordingly did not matter what ship or ships were involved, or that they might not have been owned by the shipowners.

That was not necessarily correct, because the presumption that words in the singular included the plural only applied "unless the contrary intention appears".

Assuming that was correct, the plaintiffs still had to bring themselves within section 21(4) of the 1981 Act.

Applying that section one asked in connection with what ships the claim arose. The answer had to be "ships in the ownership of NNSL or other ships in different ownerships by which the containers have been or are to be carried under bills of lading naming NNSL as shippers". The answer to the question whether NNSL was, when the cause of action arose, the owner or charterer of or in possession or control of those ships was "Probably, but not necessarily". That was insufficient to justify the application of section 21(4), without which the issue of a writ *in rem* and the consequential arrest could not be upheld.

Further, it had to be shown that the containers were leased to NNSL for the operation of their ship or ships. In a broad sense that was true. But it could equally and more cogently be said that the purpose of supplying containers was to meet the convenience of shippers by providing them with ready made packaging for their goods, which had nothing to do with the operation of the ship.

Consistently with the strict approach in *Gatell International Inc v Arkwright-Boston Manufacturers Mutual Insurance Co* ((1985) AC 255) the leasing agreement must be held to be not sufficiently directly connected with the operation of ships to enable it to be said that the containers were supplied by the plaintiffs for the operation of a ship or ships.

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE, agreeing, said that each case had to be considered on its own facts in order to see whether the claim was in respect of goods or materials supplied to a ship for her operation or maintenance. The containers could not fairly be said to have been "supplied to a ship".

His Lordship preferred to express no view as to the effect of section 21(4) of the 1981 Act.

Lord Justice Woolf agreed with the Master of the Rolls.

Solicitors: Berryman & Duggan Lea & Co, Birmingham; Nabarro Nathanson.

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Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

(Change on week)

FT 30 Share

1626.3 (+48.0)

FT-SE 100

2068.5 (+67.0)

Bargains

41456 (52144)

USM (Datastream)

167.96 (+4.92)

THE POUND

(Change on week)

US dollar

1.6680 (+0.0135)

W German mark

2.9774 (+0.0183)

Trade-weighted

73.3 (+0.6)

Rolls on course for sale success

By David Young

Rolls-Royce is riding on a wave of affection for the company that is likely to make its privatization this Thursday an almost embarrassing success for the Government.

After a slow start, inquiries to the Share Information Office leapt to 650,000 by Friday morning, reaching almost 700,000 at the weekend. The unexpected attractions to short-term speculators mean the computer-based procedure for allocating shares will be seen to work faultlessly.

In spite of initial suggestions that the price set for the company was too high to attract the new breed of investors created by the Government's privatization programme, stock market buoyancy at present suggests Rolls-Royce shares will trade at a premium when they come on the market.

Requests for information packs have outstripped supply and with only 40 per cent of the shares set aside for the private investor, it is now likely that another 10 per cent will be clawed back from the institutions and that trading will start at a premium.

The clawback will be triggered if the offer is more than twice oversubscribed. The general upturn in the economy, the prospect of falling interest rates and the enthusiasm of the small investor seem certain to ensure the success of the flotation.

Originally the City had hoped for a lower price than 170p a share, payable in two instalments, but now potential bidders are convinced they could be buying a bargain. The Government will raise £1.36 billion from the sale of 801 million Rolls shares and has set the minimum level of applications for shares at 400 — costing an initial £340 and an eventual £680 — giving it scope to scale down the allocation of shares to about 100 for every 400 applied for without having to ballot applicants.

The company's worldwide reputation for engineering excellence and its romantic historical associations have also helped its acceptability with those who may not have been prepared to put savings into earlier privatizations.

The City prices usually carried on a Monday will appear tomorrow.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	2280.40 (-5.96)
Dow Jones	23890.89 (+406.06)
Hong Kong	2688.37 (+25.52)
Hang Seng	280.6 (-0.2)
Amsterdam Gen	1752.9 (+3.4)
Sydney: AO	1785.2 (-7.5)
Frankfurt	4616.01 (+16.24)
General	453.8 (+0.2)
Paris: CAC	828.20 (+1.0)
Zurich: SCA Gen	1032.48 (+1.9)
London: FT A	91.96 (+0.27)

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base	9%
3-month interbank	9.1-9.1%
3-month eligible bills	9.1-9.1%
buying rate	
US: Prime Rate	8%
Federal Funds	7%
3-month Treasury Bills	5.60-5.59%
30-year bonds	8.8-8.8%

CURRENCIES

London: £/\$	1.6680
£/DM	2.9774
£/Sfr	2.4399
£/FF	6.5536
£/Yen	160.10
£/index	100.2
ECU	1.366726
Gold	\$454.90-455.50

GOLD

London Fixing:	
AM \$452.12 pm \$458.75	
close \$454.00-454.50	(£271.75-272.25)
New York:	
Comex	\$454.90-455.50

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (June)	\$18.12 bbl (\$18.05)
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Japan's cheap loans plan

Large share of \$30bn could go to Brazil

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

The details of a \$30 billion (£17 billion) loan commitment to developing countries by Japan are already being discussed by Japanese and US officials after last week's visit to Washington by Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, Japan's Prime Minister. Among the options believed to be under consideration are a further injection of funds into the World Bank and soft loans to Third World countries subsidised by the Japanese government.

Japan announced its intention to lead the \$30 billion over three years shortly before Mr Nakasone arrived in the US. The move was interpreted as being closely related to Japanese attempts to avoid trade sanctions by the US government. American banks have very large loans in countries that are finding it hard to meet repayment requirements. Latin American debt problems have undermined their strength and they are reluctant to lend more.

It is believed that a large proportion of the Japanese money will go to Latin American borrowers, in particular Brazil.

Mr Shintaro Abe, a Japanese envoy, said in Washington that the \$30 billion may be handled by the Japanese equivalent of the US Export-Import Bank.

Loans could be made in the form of trade related credits, linked specifically to trade in Japanese goods. But this possibility was apparently dismissed by Mr Charles Redman, a spokesman for the US State Department, who described the new money as "untied loans".

Many bankers feel the best way of introducing the Japanese finance to Third World debtors would be to pump some of it into the World Bank or related development agencies, giving the Japanese a greater say in running the bank while enabling the US to contribute less.

It would also mean the money could be used to make loans which did not necessarily favour the trade of any particular Western country and thus avoid international antagonism.

Most bankers believe that whatever form the lending takes, the Japanese will take the opportunity to win

concessions from borrowers such as Brazil. Japan has considerable manufacturing interests in Brazil but is not permitted by Brazilian regulations to purchase Brazilian companies. Observers point out that a new loan would be a suitable means of pressing for permission to buy manufacturing companies there.

Senior US bankers last week claimed, however, that one option being considered was for direct lending to developing countries by Japanese commercial banks. The loans would be at commercial rates but borrowers would receive them at lower rates subsidised by the Japanese government.

The proposal to lend \$30 billion over three years could therefore enact — or replace — the ailing plan of US Treasury Secretary Mr James Baker for Western banks and multilateral agencies to lend \$30 billion extra by the end of 1990.

The total borrowing of the world's main Third World debtors now amounts to about \$400 billion. Brazil is the largest with \$110 billion, followed by Mexico with around \$100 billion.

Pereira signals change

From Patrick Knight, São Paulo

Best that can be hoped for, Senhor Bresser Pereira, has not wasted any time in signalling to the international financial community that Brazil will not be going any further down an unorthodox economic path.

The new minister has said Brazil will start paying interest on foreign loans again as soon as an improvement in the trade balance permits. To restore the economy to health, he will adopt measures similar to those recommended by the International Monetary Fund, which is not viewed by Senhor Bresser Pereira in the same hostile light as his predecessor, Senhor Dilsen Fumaro.

Growth of 3 1/2 per cent is the

zero the room for manoeuvre is tiny. Unless the government tries to adopt far more radical policies than the Brazilian people would tolerate, an accommodation with foreign creditors has to be sought.

Bankers differentiate Brazil from Mexico and other Third World debtors as being the one country which made good use of its foreign loans. They say that under orthodox economic leadership they will willingly lend again.

It remains to be seen whether this will happen soon or whether Brazil will have to wait until the outcome of a presidential campaign reveals whether the country is again seen as safe for foreign capital.

Sun Life in merger talks with Pearl

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

Sun Life is understood to have had informal merger talks with Pearl Assurance in a last-ditch attempt to avoid influence from Mr Donald Gordon's Transatlantic Holdings, which owns 26 per cent of Sun Life's shares and is pressing for the election of three representatives to the board at the annual meeting next Wednesday.

Mr Peter Grant, Sun Life's chairman, believes a combination of Sun Life's unit-linked and pension business with the larger Pearl's traditional industrial life assurance sales force would make a logical fit.

In a weekend letter to Sun Life shareholders, Mr Gordon says he wants Sun Life to remain independent and would not seek to gain control unless Mr Grant attempted to



Grant: combined businesses would make a logical fit

pass control to third parties by introducing a "white knight". He says this would be against the interests of shareholders, policyholders and staff.

Under these circumstances, Mr Gordon says Transatlantic "may well find it difficult" to support Mr Grant's own reelection at the meeting.

Hillards rejects higher bid

Mr Peter Hartley, chairman of Hillards, the Yorkshire supermarket group, has already rejected the increased takeover offer from Tesco, which has been sent to shareholders over the weekend.

He said the offer was inadequate for a company that had built up stores, sales and profits in the very part of the country that Tesco had "failed so lamentably to make any impression".

Tesco received only 2.5 per cent acceptances for its original offer. Hillards now claims that it has support from owners of a fifth of its shares against the new bid. But this is a reduction on the support originally claimed for Tesco's first offer.

Tesco has said that its new offer is final.

Survey praises non-executive directors

More outsiders needed

By Joe Joseph

Most private and institutional shareholders believe that installing a small posse of non-executive directors in British boardrooms would go a long way towards restraining headstrong or mischievous company officials and restoring public confidence in the City after the shambles of the Guinness affair.

Non-executive directors also tend to inspire confidence in a quoted company, can provide technical know-how, an outsider's viewpoint and useful commercial and City contacts.

These are the key conclusions of a study commissioned by Ernst & Whinney, the accountant, into how some members of the financial community view the new code of practice on non-executive directors that is being championed by the Bank of England, the Stock Exchange and the CBI.

All three bodies are active sponsors of a group called PRO NED (Promotion of Non-Executive Directors), which last month published a

voluntary code of practice recommending strongly that public companies which did not already have two or three non-executive directors would do well to appoint some soon.

The Ernst & Whinney survey — which tested the reaction of both institutional fund managers and ordinary shareholders who might have had their first taste of the City through the British Telecom or British Gas flotations — found both welcomed the idea of urging public companies to appoint more non-executive directors.

"Shareholders are generally in favour of the introduction of a code of best practice which recommends greater involvement of independent non-executive directors on boards of directors," said Harold Cottam, Ernst & Whinney's managing partner.

"The whole area of control and directors' responsibilities has received such exposure in the wake of the Guinness affair that this is hardly surprising."

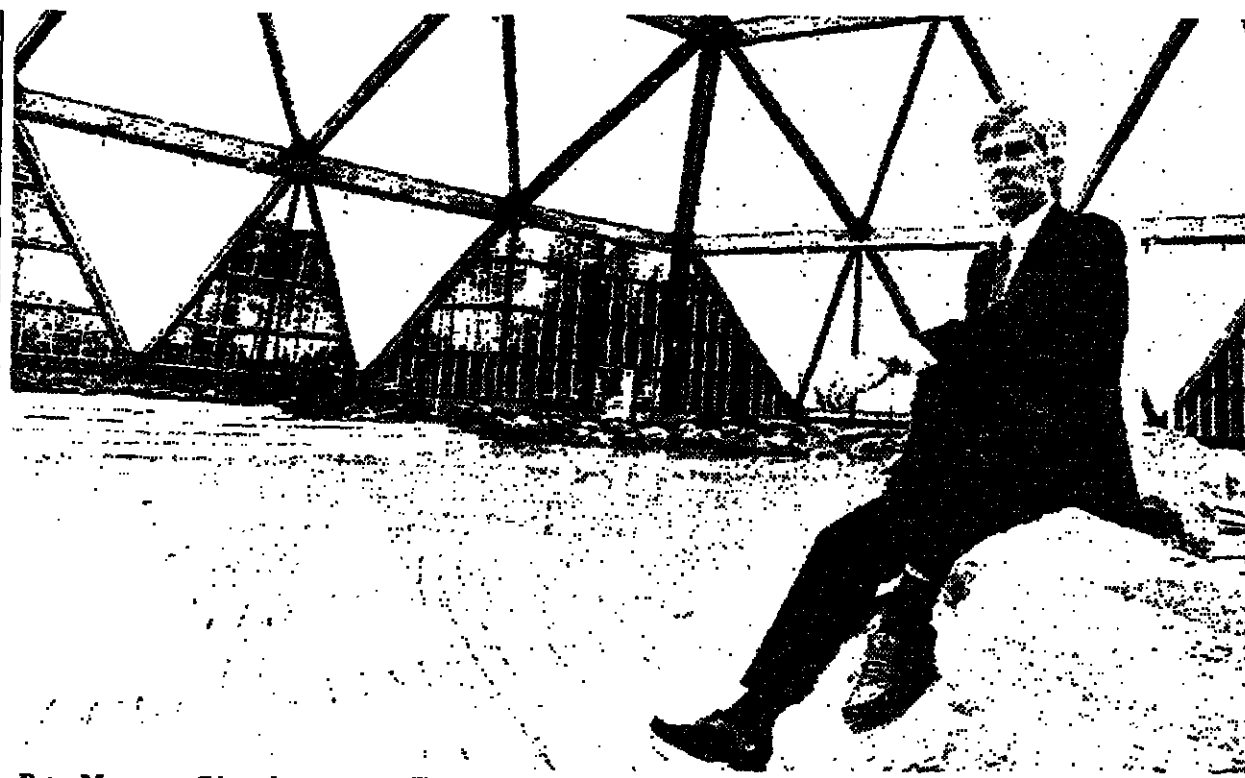
PRO NED's backers agree that the recent turmoil at

Guinness highlighted the danger of keeping non-executive directors in the dark and the dramatic impact such outside directors could have when they chose to flex their muscles.

Non-executive directors played a major role in eventually sacking Ernest Saunders, Guinness's disgraced former chairman and chief executive. Sir Norman Macfarlane, formerly one of the brewing firm's non-executive directors, was subsequently installed in the chairman's seat.

But the Ernst & Whinney survey, which was conducted by Consensus Research, a specialist business research company, also found that despite broad support for PRO NED's stated objectives, the majority of private shareholders and even half the fund managers interviewed were unaware of the lobby group's proposals.

That leads Mr Cottam to "question whether the practice will be acted upon if its implementation is entirely voluntary."



Peter Moore: confident that concept will work in Britain after "astounding response" to £1 million promotion campaign

Paradise in a plastic bubble

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

While the rest of Britain shivered this cold and wet holiday weekend, the first palm trees and other exotic tropical trees were being planted in Sherwood Forest, 20 miles north of Nottingham.

However, they will be growing in a controlled environment of about 84 degrees all the year round in a large domed area which will be the central attraction of the first British venture by Center Parcs, the Dutch operator of luxury holiday villages.

The £32 million Nottinghamshire village will also have 600 stone-built villas clustered in small groups around a man-made lake and three miles of waterways and streams, all set in 450 acres. Underneath its translucent plastic cupola, the swimming area with its Caribbean atmosphere will have waterfalls, whirlpools and water slides.

It will not be cheap to stay in the Nottinghamshire village which opens in early July. A self-catering one-bedroomed villa costs £269 in high season.

Two bedrooms cost £349, three bedrooms £408 and four bedrooms £429 (all excluding VAT). But the price does include electricity, gas, heating, TV with two special video channels, radio, bedlinen and entry to the swimming dome where they expect to be harvesting bananas by August.

After spending just under £1 million on promotion, including TV advertising, the village is already 87 per cent booked to October with November 70 per cent booked. Mr Peter Moore, director of marketing in Britain for Center Parcs, said: "The response has been astonishing. It makes us confident the concept will work in Britain."

The village capacity is 3,000 people at one time and there is a variety of sports and other facilities, including a range of restaurants.

The scheme attracted £1.5 million in backing from the English Tourist Board because it has identified short breaks as the big growth area in British-based holidays.

Mr Moore said: "We like to have the villages inland and in forested areas which preferably are partly coniferous so that even in winter the appeal is enhanced."

The company, which was floated on the Amsterdam bourse in 1985, has eight villages in Holland and one in Belgium, with a second Belgian one under construction and the first in France planned for next year.

Center Parcs sees possibly

eight or nine being established in Britain, depending on how well the concept goes down with Britons. Planning permission has just been sought for a second British village at Warren Wood, Theford Forest, in Suffolk. It is expected to cost about £35 million and the aim is to open it by July 1989.

A decision is now close for the choice of a third site. Mr Moore said: "Clearly we have to evaluate how Sherwood Forest settles down but we are keen to widen the introduction of the concept as quickly as possible and get the third village open by 1990."

He added: "It looks as if we could go for five or six villages to be open by the early 1990s but it will have to be a controlled expansion, depending on the performance of villages already operating."

CBI 'buy British' plea

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Confederation of British Industry is to call on the Government to adopt more positive measures to ensure that the public sector buys more British goods.

In a paper to be presented to the National Economic Development Council on Wednesday, the CBI estimates that about one eighth of the goods bought by public services are imported, representing bil-

lions of pounds of business that could flow to British companies.

It wants government departments and public corporations, including electricity supply, to adopt a "positive purchasing policy" along the lines of the National Economic Development Office's "Better Made in Britain" campaign in which purchasers tell suppliers of their needs.

Mountleigh bid talks

By Our City Staff

Merger talks between Mountleigh Group and Stockley, the property companies, are continuing. Mountleigh emerged at the weekend as the unnamed suitor who approached Stockley last Friday.

Stockley, with a market capitalization of £300 million, is the larger of the two, but Mountleigh, valued at £200 million, has been expanding. Last week, Mountleigh ac-

quired the old headquarters of The Times in Gray's Inn Road, central London, for £22.5 million, and last year it took over United Real Property Trust for £117 million.

Stockley made an extraordinary profit of £11 million from the sale of its 26.5 per cent stake in Stock Conversion last year. Even without this, profits doubled from £3.7 million to £7.8 million.

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US NOTEBOOK

Double edge to Fed's open policy

From Maxwell Newton, New York

The importance of the Federal Reserve Board's decision to come out into the open on its monetary policy was not only that the central bank decided it must do something serious to impress the currency markets. There was also an implied judgement that the domestic US economy would have to be sacrificed in the larger interest of preventing a world financial collapse.

The radical nature of the Fed's new policy was most clearly manifested in the rise of the federal funds rate from 6 1/2 per cent in April to 7 1/2 per cent.

This is a major change indicative of an underlying decision to curb and even contract the banks' reserves which have been under very tight control since January. As of the week ended April 29, the adjusted monetary base (banks' reserves plus currency) was \$269.3 billion (\$155.8 billion), compared with a level of \$259.9 billion in the week of January 28.

If a federal funds range of 6 1/2-6 3/4 per cent had been sufficient to freeze the growth in reserves, what will be the consequence of funds at 7 1/2-8 per cent? The impact of the progressive tightening of Fed policy that has been in force for most of 1987 (non-borrowed reserves plus extended credit having changed little since the third week of December 1986) has been disguised by the action in the currency markets.

As the move by those shorting the dollar (led by the cash-rich Japanese) has gathered momentum, the effect has been to depress US bond prices. The dollar shorts have sold out long positions. The Japanese have led the march.

The resulting dollar proceeds have been sold to foreign central banks. These banks, the Bank of Japan in the van, have been buying dollars furiously and investing the proceeds in US Treasury bills.

This, along with a move inside the United States into shorter positions by

worried American money managers, has meant bond prices have been depressed while Treasury bill yields have remained low.

Thus, between March 27 and April 29 the 90-day Treasury bill rate fell from 5.61 per cent to 5.54 per cent while the 10-year Treasury note yield rose from 7.34 to 8.20 per cent.

Now that the dollar has been accorded top priority, both implicitly and explicitly, by the Fed, there will tend to be a counter-reaction. It will be less profitable to unload US bonds. They now offer a high nominal yield compared with Tokyo and Frankfurt. The gap is about 500 basis points. Even though it may be argued that US inflation is accelerating and hence anticipated US real rates are considerably less than the nominal rates, this is not necessarily a deterrent to a foreign holder of dollars.

The foreign holder of dollars is interested in US inflation mainly insofar as it affects the exchange rate. And if the dollar is to be stabilized at

the expense of the domestic US economy, then the foreigner has all the assurance he needs.

For the Germans, the concern about the dollar ended in mid-January, since when the dollar-mark rate has been stable. For the Japanese, the advent of a stable dollar-yen rate, which the Fed and the White House have effectively guaranteed, opens up the prospect of vastly higher yields in New York.

As Japanese money now surges back into the medium and longer-term bonds, there will be a markedly smaller rate of accumulation of dollars by the Bank of Japan and other central banks. This in turn will tend to depress Treasury bill prices.

The higher funds rate may thus be expected to affect short-term yields more than has been the case during the big bear run on the dollar. As short-term yields rise towards the funds level, Mr Paul Volcker, the chairman of the Fed, may not be able to hold to the leaked plan not to raise the US discount rate.

GILT-EDGED

Election will spur sterling rush

Changes in base rates tend to come as a surprise these days. The pre-Budget cut came when the Government had given every indication — and the markets had begun to believe it — that absolutely nothing would shift base rates until the Chancellor had dispensed the Budget's good news. And the base rate drop in the Budget's immediate wake was limited to a mere half-point when, emboldened by the post-Budget euphoria engendered by the especially low public sector borrowing requirement target, most thought that a full percentage point was going to be sanctioned.

The timing of last week's cut was no exception to this new-found tendency for surprise: nobody expected the go-ahead to lower rates to be given so soon. Indeed, some discount houses, members of a fraternity that makes a high-risk living by second-guessing the authorities' actions in the money markets, dealt with the Bank of England at the old rates only moments before the cut was officially signalled. If they cannot discern what is going on, what hope have the rest of us?

What probably made the Government move earlier than expected was the extent

to which huge official intervention in the foreign exchange markets was having only limited success in holding sterling down. Whether this is true or not will be revealed by the official reserve figures for April, due out tomorrow. These are expected to show that the Bank sold \$2 billion of sterling last month — yet the currency still went up.

In recent years, the Bank has been compelled by circumstances to become especially adept at grappling with a falling currency. Now it is in the unfamiliar position of not being able to hold an appreciating pound in check. And this is a situation likely to persist for a while yet.

The world — especially its champion savers, the Japanese — has become saturated with dollar-denominated assets. In addition, the dollar, last week's Japanese interest rate promise notwithstanding, remains vulnerable, and in present circumstances sterling looks an exceptionally promising alternative bet. The markets are increasingly convinced that an early election is imminent and that the Government will be easily re-elected, and this accounts for sterling's recent strength. However, an actual election announcement will set the seal of certainty upon this and

provoke a further strong inflow into sterling. The magnitude of such flows is likely to dwarf intervention, rendering it of only limited use, and base rates are likely to come down again to stop sterling going above DM3.00.

The lower base rates are driven the more reluctant the Government will become to allow the process to go further, particularly as external pressures may increasingly come into conflict with the domestic monetary position. The now-discarded sterling M3 is still growing at only a shade below 20 per cent, and other measures of money, both broad and narrow — with the exception of the Chancellor's favourite, M0 — are also rising at an uncomfortably robust pace. Indeed, the sunny prospect of lower base rates may arouse fears that the famous "glacier" of liquidity will begin to melt.

The starting point is pay settlements of 6-7 per cent — and underlying earnings growth of 7 1/2 per cent — which have resulted both in strong consumers' expenditure and an underlying inflation rate above that of our main competitors.

In the latter respect, we reckon that Britain's "core"

inflation rate lies in the 4 1/2-5 per cent region — reflecting trend productivity growth of 2 1/2 per cent. And it is difficult to see how a third-term Conservative administration will be able to reduce significantly the underlying inflation rate, let alone achieve the promised land of zero inflation. Both these developments imply a balance of payments problem — and a structural one at that — sooner or later.

While these considerations argue for a degree of caution longer-term, it is difficult to be more than very optimistic about the near-term outlook. Already the markets are partially discounting a June election victory for Mrs Thatcher, and the actual announcement will be greeted with enthusiasm here, and more importantly overseas, where the liquidity lies. Accordingly, worries about the current account and inflation will be put on one side — especially in the light of the good trade figures published on Friday, and last week's CBI survey finding that cost pressures have recently seen some slackening. Instead, with political optimism riding high, the pound strong and short-term rates under downward pressure, all will be subsumed in euphoria.

In the pre-election period

long yields will have to go through two barriers if there is to be a sustained improvement. One is the 8 1/2 per cent yield level that was the peak of the market in April last year, which the market failed to breach just after the Budget. If yields fall below this level then the market will be regaining territory last occupied in the early 1970s.

The other — albeit volatile — barrier will be the yield on US bonds. Although gilt yields were below those on long US Treasuries as recently as 1985, there will be some resistance to this happening again.

Nevertheless, a still weaker dollar and strong pound argue strongly in favour of a re-evaluation.

In the pre-election period, foreign demand for gilts could push long-dated yields down to 8 1/2 per cent, which is likely to be the upper limit on the market for the time being. Immediately after the election, however, time horizons will lengthen dramatically as attention focuses on the Conservatives' policies in the third term.

Ian Harwood and John Shepperd

The authors are economists with Warburg Securities.

COMMENT

The British economy secretly changes gear

The economy has moved into a new and rather interesting phase.

Gone, for the moment, is the consumer spending boom. Indeed, we are enjoying, if that is the word, something of a savings boom at present.

Gone too are worries about the balance of payments with Friday's announcement of a £175 million current account surplus in March — the third positive figure in a row. And the Chancellor believes the economy is performing better than he dared hope when putting together the Budget six weeks ago.

To really assess what is happening, we need to equip ourselves with Smith's two laws of economics.

The first law is quite straightforward. It is that, whichever party is in power, the economy tends to look better when an election is coming up.

The second law helps to explain why the Confederation of British Industry is so happy about the state of its members' order books and why there is all this talk of a new industrial renaissance in Britain. This is that devaluation works — as long as you have not planned it.

To see how these laws apply to the present situation, we need to jog back a few months to the autumn of last year.

Then, it may be remembered, everyone was talking about the pause in economic activity that had followed the fall in oil prices. And the only growth area in the economy, it appeared, was consumer spending, which was sucking in imports at an alarming rate.

However, something had happened which was to change the picture more than anyone realized. This was sterling's depreciation, most notably against other European currencies.

Sterling's fall, from a level of DM4 in mid-1985 to well under DM3 by last autumn was not part of some grand strategy cooked up at the Treasury.

It was, rather, mainly a side effect of the dollar's fall, which benefited the mark, dragging up the other European Monetary System currencies with it, as well as the yen.

Had the dollar not been weak, Britain could not have risked allowing sterling to fall so much because of the damaging effects on inflation, although it is difficult to see what could have been done to stop sterling from falling over that period.

Fortuitous though it was, the pound's fall has had a significant and surprisingly swift effect on Britain's external

accounts. And the battles have been won this year, not on some foreign field, but at home.

There was an immediate jump in export volume of 5 per cent between the third and fourth quarters of last year but since then exports have been flat, hit by slow growth in Europe.

But the substitution of domestic for imported goods has been the feature this year. It may be a straw in the wind, but in March more than 50 per cent of cars sold in Britain were made in Britain for the first time in nearly 10 years. After rising by 3 per cent in the fourth quarter of last year, import volumes fell by 8 per cent in the first quarter of this year.

Therefore, strictly speaking, we are not talking about an export boom. And we are certainly no longer talking about a consumer boom — there has been no real increase in consumer spending since the middle of last year.

Instead, home produced goods are taking a bigger share of what is a stable level of consumer demand, although other demand components, notably government spending and investment, have been rising.

Economists have long been used to predicting British imports by thinking of an outrageous number for the marginal propensity to import, and then doubling it.

And so the sight of British manufacturers clawing back market share has, understandably, come as something of a shock, even if it may mainly reflect the switching of production from the Continent by multinational companies, seeking to take advantage of the present pattern of exchange rates.

Consumer spending should pick up later in the year as the tax and mortgage rate cuts come through. Retailers are talking of a very good April. The experience of the past few months suggests this extra demand should not result in an explosion of imports, as long as sterling is not allowed to appreciate too much.

The pound, at DM2.98, is already almost 10 per cent up on the low point reached over the winter. This was the thinking which lay behind last Tuesday's surprise reduction in base rates to 9.5 per cent.

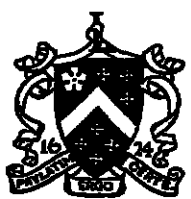
The Bank of England may have to allow more base rate cuts, and probably one this week, to prevent a strong pound from marring an encouraging picture.

David Smith

Economics Correspondent

EDUCATIONAL

PREP & PUBLIC SCHOOLS

LATYMER UPPER SCHOOL
HAMMERSMITH, LONDON, W6 9LR
APPOINTMENT OF HEAD

The Governors of the Edward Latymer Foundation at Hammersmith, invite applications for the post of Head of Latymer Upper School, which will become vacant in September, 1988 upon the retirement of M.L.R. Isaac Esq., MA.

Particulars of the Appointment and an application form may be obtained from:

The Clerk to the Governors
Latymer Upper School
King Street
Hammersmith, London, W6 9LR

Applications should reach the Clerk to the Governors by 3rd June, 1987.

HAMPTON SCHOOL,
Hanworth Road,
Hampton,
Middlesex TW12 3HD

The Governors invite applications for the post of HEAD which will become vacant at the start of the Summer Term 1988 on the retirement of Mr. H.G. Alexander.

Hampton School is an independent boys' day school with 840 pupils of whom 240 are in the Sixth Form. The present head is a member of the Headmasters' Conference.

Details of the appointment are available from the Clerk to the Governors at the School. Applications must be received by Tuesday 2nd June, 1987.

Q.E.D.

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IMMEDIATELY WITH CV

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Dominic Bates at Q.E.D.

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THE OLD
MALTHOUSE

Langton Matravers
Swanage, Dorset BH19 3HB

HEAD

The Governors of The Old Malthouse invite applications for the post of Head which will become vacant in September 1988 or possibly sooner.

Applications with curriculum vitae and the names of two referees should be sent to The Bursar by Friday 22nd May, from whom further details may be obtained.

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

GS 4 Girls 106, 5-18

ACCOUNTANT to be responsible for financial management and all accounting matters including preparation of accounts, budgets and financial statements. The successful candidate will be one of a small management team and will have overall charge of non-academic staff. The post is a full-time position and the successful candidate will be expected to work within a small close knit group in a team spirit, with a high degree of initiative and responsibility. The post is a new one, created to meet an expansion in the boarding sector of the school and offers an opportunity for a qualified accountant to work within a small close knit group in a team spirit, with a high degree of initiative and responsibility. The post is a new one, created to meet an expansion in the boarding sector of the school and offers an opportunity for a qualified accountant to work within a small close knit group in a team spirit, with a high degree of initiative and responsibility.

Apply immediately to the Headmaster, St Joseph's School, Upper London NW, London N12 9RW, (0122) 4794.

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
Woodbridge, SuffolkAppointment of
BURSAR

The Governors wish to appoint a Bursar and Clerk to the Governors, who should be available to start not later than the beginning of January 1988, and preferably earlier.

The successful candidate is likely to be aged between 35 and 50. Full particulars of the appointment and an application form may be obtained from:

The Secretary to the Governors,
Framlingham College, Woodbridge,
Suffolk, IP13 9EY.

Completed applications should reach the College by 8th June, 1987.

ST. NICHOLAS' SCHOOL

Fleet, Hampshire

Required for September

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General Science subjects

up to GCSE level. This is a

full time post (Scale 1)

teaching small classes in a

well equipped modern labo-

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Applications enclosing a

full CV and stating

subjects offered to The

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with the names of two

references.

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1987 Teacher of Physics

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full CV and stating

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successful candidates will

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fees, £340 per term in-

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Write (stating date of

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Dean's Yard,

London SW1P 3NY.

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tional psychologists.

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Continued on next page

EDUCATIONAL

PREP & PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FORRES

The Governors of Forres invite applications for the post of

HEAD

which will become vacant in January 1988 on the appointment of the present Headmaster to The Downs School, Malvern

Full details may be obtained from:

The Chairman of the Governors of Forres, 8 Darlington Place, Bath BA2 6BX.

Applications close on Friday, 29 May 1987

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1986 day boys, girls in

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Teacher of Geography and

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seeking a teacher with

a minimum of 5 years' experience

in the subject. The

teacher will be responsible

for the delivery of the

course and for the

assessment of the

pupils. The teacher

will also be responsible

for the supervision of

the pupils in the

laboratory. The

teacher will be

expected to have

a good knowledge of

the subject and to

be able to deliver

the course in an

interesting and

effective manner.

The teacher will

also be responsible

for the supervision

of the pupils in the

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FOOTBALL: CHAMPAGNE AS COX'S HARD WORK AND SHREWD HUSBANDRY STEERS DERBY COUNTY BACK INTO THE FIRST DIVISION

Promotion wishes answered timidly

By Simon Jones

Portsmouth	2
Millwall	0

Portsmouth are poised to return to the first division after an absence of 28 years. One point from their first two matches will ensure promotion, but it happens to their closest rivals, Oldham Athletic.

In fact, promotion seems so certain that the final stages of Saturday's victory against Millwall were interrupted by the obligatory pitch invasion following the final whistle, the ritual massing of the hordes in front of the directors' box. Given Portsmouth's penchant for self-destruction, such behaviour might seem rash.

Yet, after two seasons of near-misses, it looks as if even Portsmouth cannot fail now. So perhaps the question should not be whether they will return to the first division, but how they will do when they get there.

Judging by this performance the answer cannot be encouraging. Against a side ludicrously lacking in ambition, Portsmouth played so timidly they looked as if they were expecting Millwall to metamorphose into Real Madrid.

Nothing could have been more unlikely since Millwall did not manage a serious shot in 90 minutes. After a first half which seemed entirely composed of play which television would have edited out, things improved only marginally.

Byrne tried hard to inspire the visitors with some determined running and neat ball skills, but he found his colleagues as unwilling as Portsmouth to take the initiative. The home defence, which has the best record in the Football League, can seldom have had such a quiet afternoon.

With their manager, Alan Ball, following at them like a housewife haranguing her neighbours over the garden fence, Portsmouth eventually came to life. In the 54th minute Quinn's free kick found Mark Wright, who advanced into the penalty area to finish off the move with a style which seemed out of place in such a drab game.

A minute from time, O'Callaghan added a second goal as he drove in a short free kick from Dillon after Marks had obstructed Hilaire on the edge of the six-yard box.

PORTSMOUTH: A Knight, K. Seale, P. Hartman, K. Dillon, N. Blake, W. Gilbert, O'Callaghan, M. Kennedy, P. Mariner, M. Quinn, V. Hillier.

MILLWALL: B. Home, D. Morgan, N. Coleman, L. Briley, A. Walker, A. McNulty, D. Byrne, C. Carter, S. Hinchey (sub: B. Barker), M. Marks, D. Salter. Referee: R. Lewis.

Derby County aim to add the championship feather to their cap

Derby County aim to add the championship feather to their cap

By a Special Correspondent

Derby County	2
Leeds United	1

From similar humble beginnings, Arthur Cox, 18 years on, has emulated Brian Clough's achievement of taking Derby County into the first division.

Champagne, a rare sight in recent years at the Baseball Ground, was uncorked after Derby's twenty-fourth victory of a magnificent season. Cox, ever the drill sergeant figure, permitted himself just one glass and typically shied away from comparisons with Clough.

"What I have done here pales into insignificance alongside Brian Clough's achievements. He's a genius - I just work hard," he said.

Nevertheless, the impact of Cox's era at Derby is such that boardroom pressure is already being applied on him to sign an extension to a contract

which still has two years to run.

When Cox arrived from Newcastle, Derby had just won a photo-finish to stay in business as chief executive, Stuart Webb, sprinted from his bank to the High Court with a cheque large enough to satisfy the Inland Revenue.

Only nine players remained on the staff, creditors were still hammering on the door and survival in the third division looked a formidable task.

But successive promotion seasons, tremendous support and shrewd husbandry behind the scenes have provided a platform for Derby to compete again at the highest level.

Predicted season ticket sales of £750,000 will finance improvements to a playing strength already capable of living comfortably in the first division, and Cox's record of signing and improving players suggests that investments will not be misplaced.

The promising Gee.

plucked from non-League football, and the irrepressible Davison, offered further evidence of Cox's talents by scoring the goals which beat Leeds and ensured promotion.

Gee's 17th of the season was a stunning finish following a run from the centre circle and Davison's 21st goal was a header taken in circumstances in which only the bravest venture. Davison's delay in signing a new contract is the only cloud on the Derby horizon but that should be removed after the two matches this week when they aim to attach the championship to promotion.

Meanwhile Leeds, outplayed in the first half but more purposeful after Ashurst's 52nd minute goal, probably need to win their last two games to reach the play-offs.

DERBY COUNTY: E. Steele, P. Blades, M. Forster, G. Davison, R. Hanson, B. MacKenzie, G. McLaughlin, P. Cox, R. Dawson, J. Gregory, N. Callaghan. LEEDS UNITED: M. Day, K. Agnew, R. McDonald, D. Rennie (sub: K. Edwards), J. Ashurst, B. O'Sullivan, J. Stevenson, J. Pearson, I. Baird, M. Adams.

Everton's timing may be perfect

By Ian Ross

Everton	0
Manchester City	0

As Everton prepare for their match at Norwich today, they would do well to remember a simple fact which they ignored on Saturday: that there are no easy games in the first division.

Supporters who had arrived at Goodison Park hoping to acclaim champions left bailing the fallen heroes of Manchester City after an arduous and, at times, thoroughly agonizing spectacle. As Everton, the season's thoroughbreds, suffered an unexpected defeat of insecurity, City, struggling desperately against relegation, defiantly stood their ground. Although there is now little doubt that City's renaissance will have to be continued next season in the second division, this result could, in the long term, prove to be something of a turning point.

Everything had suggested that this was to be the mismatch of the year: City, without an away win for 16 months, against Everton, who had won 11 home League games in succession.

Yet such is the unpredictability of football that Everton were

fortunate to extract a point from an infuriatingly disjointed game. With their rhythm disrupted by the loss of Reid midway through the first half, they failed to put together one move of any consequence and were more likely to lose than to win the longer the game went on.

City, superbly served by Redmond and McCarthy at the back and by Langley in midfield, created by far the better chances and twice struck the woodwork.

Everton may well be finally running out of steam, but with the season's end now in sight and the title just one win away, their timing, as always, would appear to be impeccable. Despite performing ineptly, this result has pushed them closer to the championship, and it is a pity that Liverpool's defeat at Coventry, City, meanwhile, can only ponder that despite performing heroically here they have moved yet another step closer to it.

EVERTON: S. Stewart, G. Stevens, P. Van Den Hauwe, K. Richardson, D. Watson, P. Reid, T. St. John, A. Heath, W. Carter, I. Shotton, P. Power (sub: A. Hart). MANCHESTER CITY: E. Alcock, K. Clements, G. Wilson, S. Redmond, M. Chalmers, S. Hinchey, P. Verrall, P. Stewart, P. Simpson (sub: P. Moulden). Referee: G. Courtney.

Coventry gear up for cup in win over fading Liverpool

By Stuart Jones

Coventry	1
Liverpool	0

With belief sloshing around in their tanks, Coventry City are accelerating towards the prize that lies at the end of their season. Far from being up before the club's first appearance in the FA Cup final, they actively relish warming up for the occasion against Tottenham Hotspur in two weeks' time.

In mentally cooling down their own engines, Liverpool have all but run out of hope of retaining the title. Their fuel is so thin that, when belatedly they depressed the appropriate pedal at Highfield Road, there was no response. They merely continued to coast towards the runners-up position.

No Liverpoolian, least of all Kenny Dalglish, would publicly concede that the race is over. It would be unseemly to wave one white and one chequered flag to their neighbours across Stanley Park. But one of the manager's comments illustrated the lack of collective urgency running through the side.

Asked if he had seen a positive sign during the afternoon, he could offer nothing more than "the goalkeeper played well". If he had not, the margin might have been as wide as four years ago. Coventry will remember the date, December 10, and the score, 4-0.

They had not beaten Liverpool in any competition since. Moreover, they had lost all three previous fixtures against them this season. In Coventry's minds, therefore, there were two psychological blockades. Before removing one, their inferiority complex, they had first to remove the other: the debilitating fear of injury.

George Curtis told them that: "There would probably be hurt if they took the soft approach". Any advice given by the managing director, who could moonlight as a heavyweight wrestler, tends to be treated respectfully,

Selection error is costly

By Andrew Longmore

With one League Saturday left, many matches had an end-of-term feel to them at the weekend. No one seems very eager, however, to stay in the top class. Four of the bottom five clubs lost.

The worst post-match report came from Leanne Lawrence, the manager of Charlton, who blamed himself for not picking his top scorers, Melrose, even though he had been ill all week with a viral infection.

"If I had known how pathetic our strike force were going to be, I would have played him. Even a quarter fit, he's better than what we had on the pitch," Lawrence complained. Harford, of Luton, scored the winner in the 86th minute.

Leicester sank to their seventeenth consecutive away defeat at Chelsea, though it took second-half goals by Dixon, Carver and M. O'Brien, and Durie to establish the Londoners' superiority in front of a crowd of 11,975, a figure that does not augur well for the "Save the Bridge" campaign of the chairman, Ken Bates.

Leicester have to visit the Manor ground next Saturday, where Oxford United led a second-minute goal by Gordon, of Norwich. Southampton, though, took a tentative step away from the pressure zone with a point against Watford, senior equalizer Terry's fourth-minute goal.

After their 4-0 thrashing of West Ham last week, life at Aston Villa returned to normal. They lost 2-1 at Highbury, Hayes scoring both for Arsenal.

Queen's Park Rangers' defence had evidently packed their bags early, conceding four in the first half and three in the second to give Sheffield Wednesday their best win in the League for 27 years. The QPR manager, Jim Smith, ruefully said that he had always been a Wednesday supporter but that "the rest of what I want to say is unprintable".

Glentoran finally find Larne no threat at all

By George Ace

Glentoran	1
Larne	0

Apprehension was widespread among those who controlled the destiny of Glentoran before Saturday's Bass Irish Cup final against Larne at Windsor Park. Defeat would have meant life without Europe next term, after a season which promised much and produced little until Tommy Jackson took over as manager 19 months ago.

He has still to taste defeat. He won the TNT Gold Cup last Saturday and in all probability will contest the Roadery Cup final next Saturday.

Larne, the team from East

Upwardly mobile: Derby manager, Cox (left) and captain Hindmarsh, celebrate victory

Webb and Pearce make their mark

By Clive White

Nottingham Forest	2
Tottenham Hotspur	0

Despite resuing three of their England players on Saturday Tottenham Hotspur still bore an uncanny resemblance to the England team in 1974 last week. Both of them looked as pale as their white shirts with exhaustion.

Since some players have performed in nearly 60 games this season that is not surprising. John Sheridan, the similarly over-worked Tottenham physiotherapist, commented: "Some, like Gough, Hoddle and Waddle, have not had a break in two years because of the World Cup."

Hoddle, Clive Allen and Mabbutt were given a breather on Saturday, and no one could argue with that, at least not in the case of Mabbutt. As well as being a diabetic, he requires a further injection before each game to numb recently damaged ribs, and he has been carrying a leg injury for even longer.

City Ground supporters will be praying that they are not seeing the last of Meigod who again brought his outside skills to bear on a game. His contract expires this summer. If only Meigod and England could swap each other but there are other sturdy oaks in Forest that Bobby Robson, the national team manager, could lean on. Not that he has not tried to before with Webb.

Absent for seven matches with a hamstring injury, returned to make life as uncomfortable as possible for his former colleague, Hodge. His vigour outside and inside the penalty area is just what England need in the top class. Pearce, an equally forceful individual, outshone Thomas, his chief rival, for the position that Sansom will vacate against Scotland and Brazil in the weeks ahead.

If Tottenham were below par, Forest captured the sort of excellence which made them front-runners back in September. Even without Carr, Bowyer and Birles, a late withdrawal with a rickety left leg, the same mood that knocked Chelsea and Aston Villa for six.

How that number was not surpassed remains the secret of Nigel Clough and Clemence who were locked in a personal duel from the opening seconds when the veteran goalkeeper countered bright-eyed optimism with eagle-eyed vigilance. But a Wilkinson header sneaked passed him early in the second half and not even radar might have detected Meigod's flighted free kick.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST: S. Sutton, D. Walker, S. Pearce, C. Foster, C. Fairclough, J. Meigod, G. Mills, N. Wicks, N. Clough, P. Williams. Referee: D. Davis.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: R. Clemence, C. Hughes, M. Thomas, S. Hodge, R. Gough, N. Roddick, A. Galvin (V. Sanson), P. Allen, C. Waddell, N. Cresson, O. Ardles. Referee: E. Martin.

Clive Allen, Tottenham's England forward, who has scored 47 goals, has been voted the 1986-87 Footballer of the Year by the Football Writers' Association.

Booth is back

Darlington, of the third division, have appointed David Booth as their new manager. Booth, who was the Grimsby manager for three years until October 1985, takes over from Paul Ward who has been acting as caretaker player-manager for the past month since Cyril Knowles's dismissal. Booth said: "I am delighted to be back."

A blow for the status quo

By a Special Correspondent

Sunderland	1
Crystal Palace	0

Only two minutes remained when the Sunderland goalkeeper, Iain Hestford, reacted well to a 25-yard free by Kevin Taylor and produced a save that probably decided the second division destiny of both sides. The fate of either side of the table will be settled this week, with the likely outcome that they will be facing each other again next season.

Bob Stokoe, the Sunderland manager, expects the club in his temporary care to be safe from

relegation and the play-offs if they can win just one of their remaining matches at Millwall tomorrow night and against Barnsley at Roker Park on Saturday.

Steve Coppell believes that his Crystal Palace side are still in contention for the play-offs, which will determine who fills a place in the first division. Coppell surveyed today's home match against Portsmouth and Saturday's visit to Hull and said: "We must take six points and hope other results go in. We are not out of it yet."

They will be out of it if they play as they did for the first time against Sunderland, who took a twelfth-minute lead through

Armstrong, their young mid-field player, and squandered several other good chances.

Instead, Palace eventually remembered that this was a match they had to win, discovered the passion which had been missing earlier and forced Hestford to three useful saves.

Coppell's second-half anguish would have been eased if the referee had spotted the Palace defender, O'Reilly, heading inside the area in the 47th minute. Sunderland's 1-0 lead, a Kennedy S. Hinchey, K. Richardson, M. Proctor, G. Wallace, G. Wood, G. Neneh, K. O'Rourke, K. Taylor, G. O'Reilly, M. Adams, A. Gray, M. Bright, I. Wright, A. Ferguson. Referee: T. Mills.

WEEKEND FOOTBALL RESULTS AND TABLES

WEEKEND FOOTBALL RESULTS AND TABLE											
First division		Second division		Third division		Fourth division		Scottish premier division		3.0 league stated	
1	Aston Villa	1	Grimsby	1	Bournemouth	1	Port Vale	1	Aberdeen	1	Rangers
2	Leeds United	2	Sheff Wed	2	Barnsley	2	Rotherham	2	Falkirk	2	Celtic
3	Derby County	3	Leeds City	3	Doncaster	3	Sheff Utd	3	Partick	3	Dundee
4	Liverpool	4	Sheff Wed	4	Sheff Utd	4	Sheff Utd	4	Blackburn	4	Blackburn
5	Sheff Wed	5	Sheff Wed	5	Sheff Utd	5	Sheff Utd	5	Dundee	5	Dundee
6	Sheff Utd	6	Sheff Utd	6	Sheff Utd	6	Sheff Utd	6	Dundee	6	Dundee
7	Sheff Utd	7	Sheff Utd	7	Sheff Utd	7	Sheff Utd	7	Dundee	7	Dundee
8	Sheff Utd	8	Sheff Utd	8	Sheff Utd	8	Sheff Utd	8	Dundee	8	Dundee
9	Sheff Utd	9	Sheff Utd	9	Sheff Utd	9	Sheff Utd	9	Dundee	9	Dundee
10	Sheff Utd	10	Sheff Utd	10	Sheff Utd	10	Sheff Utd	10	Dundee	10	Dundee
11	Sheff Utd	11	Sheff Utd	11	Sheff Utd	11	Sheff Utd	11	Dundee	11	Dundee
12	Sheff Utd	12	Sheff Utd	12	Sheff Utd	12	Sheff Utd	12	Dundee	12	Dundee
13	Sheff Utd	13	Sheff Utd	13	Sheff Utd	13	Sheff Utd	13	Dundee	13	Dundee
14	Sheff Utd	14	Sheff Utd	14	Sheff Utd	14	Sheff Utd	14	Dundee	14	Dundee
15	Sheff Utd	15	Sheff Utd	15	Sheff Utd	15	Sheff Utd	15	Dundee	15	Dundee
16	Sheff Utd	16	Sheff Utd	16	Sheff Utd	16	Sheff Utd	16	Dundee	16	Dundee
17	Sheff Utd	17	Sheff Utd	17	Sheff Utd	17	Sheff Utd	17	Dundee	17	Dundee
18	Sheff Utd	18	Sheff Utd	18	Sheff Utd	18	Sheff Utd	18	Dundee	18	Dundee
19	Sheff Utd	19	Sheff Utd	19	Sheff Utd	19	Sheff Utd	19	Dundee	19	Dundee
20	Sheff Utd	20	Sheff Utd	20	Sheff Utd	20	Sheff Utd	20	Dundee	20	Dundee
21	Sheff Utd	21	Sheff Utd	21	Sheff Utd	21	Sheff Utd	21	Dundee	21	Dundee
22	Sheff Utd	22	Sheff Utd	22	Sheff Utd	22	Sheff Utd	22	Dundee	22	Dundee
23	Sheff Utd	23	Sheff Utd	23	Sheff Utd	23	Sheff Utd	23	Dundee	23	Dundee
24	Sheff Utd	24	Sheff Utd	24	Sheff Utd	24	Sheff Utd	24	Dundee	24	Dundee
25	Sheff Utd	25	Sheff Utd	25	Sheff Utd	25	Sheff Utd	25	Dundee	25	Dundee
26	Sheff Utd	26	Sheff Utd	26	Sheff Utd	26	Sheff Utd	26	Dundee	26	Dundee
27	Sheff Utd	27	Sheff Utd	27	Sheff Utd	27	Sheff Utd	27	Dundee	27	Dundee
28	Sheff Utd	28	Sheff Utd	28	Sheff Utd	28	Sheff Utd	28	Dundee	28	Dundee
29	Sheff Utd	29	Sheff Utd	29	Sheff Utd	29	Sheff Utd	29	Dundee	29	Dundee
30	Sheff Utd	30	Sheff Utd	30	Sheff Utd	30	Sheff Utd	30	Dundee	30	Dundee
31	Sheff Utd	31	Sheff Utd	31	Sheff Utd	31	Sheff Utd	31	Dundee	31	Dundee
32	Sheff Utd	32	Sheff Utd	32	Sheff Utd	32	Sheff Utd	32	Dundee	32	Dundee
33	Sheff Utd	33	Sheff Utd	33	Sheff Utd	33	Sheff Utd	33	Dundee	33	Dundee
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39	Sheff Utd	39	Sheff Utd	39	Sheff Utd	39	Sheff Utd	39	Dundee	39	Dundee
40	Sheff Utd	40	Sheff Utd	40	Sheff Utd	40	Sheff Utd	40	Dundee	40	Dundee
41	Sheff Utd	41	Sheff Utd	41	Sheff Utd	41	Sheff Utd	41	Dundee	41	Dundee
42	Sheff Utd	42	Sheff Utd	42	Sheff Utd	42	Sheff Utd	42	Dundee	42	Dundee
43	Sheff Utd	43	Sheff Utd	43	Sheff Utd	43	Sheff Utd	43	Dundee	43	Dundee
44	Sheff Utd	44	Sheff Utd	44	Sheff Utd	44	Sheff Utd	44	Dundee	44	Dundee
45	Sheff Utd	45	Sheff Utd	45	Sheff Utd	45	Sheff Utd	45	Dundee	45	Dundee
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92	Sheff Utd	92	Sheff Utd	92	Sheff Utd	92	Sheff Utd	92	Dundee	92	Dundee
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112	Sheff Utd	112	Sheff Utd	112	Sheff Utd	112	Sheff Utd	112	Dundee	112	Dundee
113	Sheff Utd	113	Sheff Utd	113	Sheff Utd	113	Sheff Utd	113	Dundee	113	Dundee
114	Sheff Utd	114	Sheff Utd	114	Sheff Utd	114	Sheff Utd	114	Dundee	114	Dundee
115	Sheff Utd	115	Sheff Utd	115	Sheff Utd	115	Sheff Utd	115	Dundee	115	Dundee
116	Sheff Utd	116	Sheff Utd	116	Sheff Utd	116	Sheff Utd	116	Dundee	116	Dundee
117	Sheff Utd	117	Sheff Utd	117	Sheff Utd	117	Sheff Utd	117	Dundee	117	Dundee
118	Sheff Utd	118	Sheff Utd	118	Sheff Utd	118	Sheff Utd	118	Dundee	118	Dundee
119	Sheff Utd	119	Sheff Utd	119	Sheff Utd	119	Sheff Utd	119	Dundee	119	Dundee
120	Sheff Utd	120	Sheff Utd	120	Sheff Utd	120	Sheff Utd	120	Dundee	120	Dundee
121	Sheff Utd	121	Sheff Utd	121	Sheff Utd	121	Sheff Utd	121	Dundee	121	Dundee
122	Sheff Utd	122	Sheff Utd	122	Sheff Utd	122	Sheff Utd	122	Dundee	122	Dundee
123	Sheff Utd	123	Sheff Utd	123	Sheff Utd	123	Sheff Utd	123	Dundee	123	Dundee
124	Sheff Utd	124	Sheff Utd	124	Sheff Utd	124	Sheff Utd	124	Dundee	124	Dundee
125	Sheff Utd	125	Sheff Utd	125	Sheff Utd	125	Sheff Utd	125	Dundee	125	Dundee
126	Sheff Utd	126	Sheff Utd	126	Sheff Utd	126	Sheff Utd	126	Dundee	126	Dundee
127	Sheff Utd	127	Sheff Utd	127	Sheff Utd	127	Sheff Utd	127	Dundee	127	Dundee
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FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Bristol Rovers 1, Norwich 1; Southampton 2, 1, 1; Watford 3, Tottenham 2, 2, 1; Wolves 1, 1, 1.	VAUGHANZ-ROBERTS: 1, Bishop's Cleeve 0; Cardiff 43 9 236 35 74 25	Rovers 1, Northampton 3; Crystal Palace 5, Burnhamthorpe 1; Reading 2, Luton 2; 1, 1, 1.	Kilmarnock 43 16 111 6 11 33 43	P Vale v Newport (7.30)	Wessex v Hants, Portle v Basingstoke	SPEEDWAY: World championships: John Skelton, Jack Newnham, 1st; 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 151st, 152nd, 153rd, 154th, 155th, 156th, 157th, 158th, 159th, 160th, 161st, 162nd, 163rd, 164th, 165th, 166th, 167th, 168th, 169th, 170th, 171st, 172nd, 173rd, 174th, 175th, 176th, 177th, 178th, 179th, 180th, 181st, 182nd, 183rd, 184th, 185th, 186th, 187th, 188th, 189th, 190th, 191st, 192nd, 193rd, 194th, 195th, 196th, 197th, 198th, 199th, 200th, 201st, 202nd, 203rd, 204th, 205th, 206th, 207th, 208th, 209th, 210th, 211st, 212th, 213th, 214th, 215th, 216th, 217th, 218th, 219th, 220th, 221st, 222nd, 223rd, 224th, 225th, 226th, 227th, 228th, 229th, 230th, 231st, 232nd, 233rd, 234th, 235th, 236th, 237th, 238th, 239th, 240th, 241st, 242nd, 243rd, 244th, 245th, 246th, 247th, 248th, 249th, 250th, 251st, 252nd, 253rd, 254th, 255th, 256th, 257th, 258th, 259th, 260th, 261st, 262nd, 263rd, 264th, 265th, 266th, 267th, 268th, 269th, 270th, 271st, 272nd, 273rd, 274th, 275th, 276th, 277th, 278th, 279th, 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<p>Scottish third division</p> <p>1 Dundee 2 2 Dundee 1 3 Dundee 1 4 Dundee 1 5 Dundee 1 6 Dundee 1 7 Dundee 1 8 Dundee 1 9 Dundee 1 10 Dundee 1</p>	<p>Scottish fourth division</p> <p>1 Dundee 2 2 Dundee 1 3 Dundee 1 4 Dundee 1 5 Dundee 1 6 Dundee 1 7 Dundee 1 8 Dundee 1 9 Dundee 1 10 Dundee 1</p>
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<p> Worcester 3, Chorley 1 Worcester 2, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 1 Worcester 1, Wokingham 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<p>Widened 1. Balfour 2. Warrnambool 3. Warrnambool 4. Warrnambool 5. Warrnambool 6. Warrnambool 7. Warrnambool 8. Warrnambool 9. Warrnambool 10. Warrnambool</p>	<p>Widened 1. Balfour 2. Warrnambool 3. Warrnambool 4. Warrnambool 5. Warrnambool 6. Warrnambool 7. Warrnambool 8. Warrnambool 9. Warrnambool 10. Warrnambool</p>
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WARRNAMBOOL

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<p> SCOTTISH NINTH DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>	<p> SCOTTISH TENTH DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>
<p> SCOTTISH ELEVEN DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>	<p> SCOTTISH TWELFTH DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>
<p> SCOTTISH THIRTEENTH DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>	<p> SCOTTISH FOURTEENTH DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>
<p> SCOTTISH FIFTEENTH DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>	<p> SCOTTISH SIXTEENTH DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>
<p> SCOTTISH SEVENTEENTH DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>	<p> SCOTTISH EIGHTEENTH DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>
<p> SCOTTISH NINETEENTH DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>	<p> SCOTTISH TWENTIETH DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>
<p> SCOTTISH TWENTY-FIRST DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>	<p> SCOTTISH TWENTY-SECOND DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>
<p> SCOTTISH TWENTY-THIRD DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>	<p> SCOTTISH TWENTY-FOURTH DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>
<p> SCOTTISH TWENTY-FIFTH DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>	<p> SCOTTISH TWENTY-SIXTH DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>
<p> SCOTTISH TWENTY-SEVENTH DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>	<p> SCOTTISH TWENTY-EIGHTH DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>
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<p> SCOTTISH FORTY-FIRST DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>	<p> SCOTTISH FORTY-SECOND DIVISION 1. Dundee United 2. Dundee United 3. Dundee United 4. Dundee United 5. Dundee United 6. Dundee United 7. Dundee United 8. Dundee United 9. Dundee United 10. Dundee United </p>
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RACING: SWINBURN LOOKS BOOKED FOR TWO DONCASTER WINNERS

Perion poised for speedy double

By Mandarin
(Michael Phillips)

Walter Swinburn, out of luck at Newmarket on Saturday, can bounce back at Doncaster today by landing a double on Who's Zoomin' Who (2.30) and Perion (3.30).

Perion won the Coal Miner Handicap last year before going on to score at Chester three days later, and that is precisely the plan Geoff Lewis, his trainer, has in mind again.

This fast five-year-old has already shown that he is in the right sort of form to accomplish the feat by winning similar races at Kempton and Sandown this spring.

He looks poised to carry on the good work even though

that speedy three-year-old Fourwalk, who has already won today's course and distance this season, is in the line-up.

Today's nap, though, is Guardo Royale to win the Race Around Yorkshire Maiden Stakes, in the hands of Billy Newnes.

When he finished third behind Quexious and Russian Rover at Warwick 13 days ago on what was his racecourse debut, this beautifully bred colt by de Bourbon out of the Oaks third Britannia's Rule gave the indelible impression that he would not only be better for the race but also benefit from a longer trip.

As that is precisely what confronts him now, he is

napped to beat Spruce Baby, Lumberjack and Waterfield. At Kempton Park, I give Guardo Royale a stable companion.

Terminator, sporting chance of winning the British Car Auctions Jubilee Stakes now that Henry Candy's horses are running so well again.

Before the season began, the master of Kingstone Warren set himself three early targets: winning the Rosebery Stakes with Stangl Vah, the City and Suburban Handicap with Ben Arden and the Jubilee with Terminator. The first two goals have been achieved, and he looks set for the treble.

At Newbury last month, Terminator ran well enough in the Spring Cup to suggest that he should be followed in the

near future, so I prefer him now to be high in the field in front of him at Newbury.

At Haydock Park, I expect the bang-in-form team of Oliver and Simon Sherwood to land the valuable Swinton Insurance Brokers Trophy with Freemason. It would be difficult to exaggerate the ease with which he won last time out at Wetherby.

Sherwood makes no secret of the fact that he is long hand this morning in mind for Freemason and that he is not perturbed by the fact that he picked up a penalty by winning his last race.

The way that my selection won there on similar ground suggests that he has something in hand even though such

accomplished hurdlers as Pridcaux Boy, who won the race a year ago, and Neblin, are in the field.

As far as the Flat racing on the Lancashire course is concerned, the best bet could be Romantic Prince to win the Manchester Maiden Stakes even though Santella Grey is undoubtedly the form horse.

At Warwick, Richard Quinn should be the jockey to follow as he has high hopes of a treble on Glucium (3.45), Quille Fille (4.45) and Don't Knock It (5.15).

Back to a mile after failing to last further in a better-class race at Sandown recently, Quille Fille should certainly be hard to beat in the Alverton Fillies' Stakes.

Guide to our in-line racecard

103 (12) 0-4-32 TIMESFORM 74 (C.D.F.G.S.) (Mrs D Robinson) 8-10-0 B West (4) 88
Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F, all; G, all; S, all; D, all; C, all; T, all).
Brought down. S, slipped up. R, refused.
Horse's name. Day of week. Age. Sex. Weight. Rider. V, winner. H, handicap. C, course winner. S, season's best. D, distance winner. C, course and distance winner.

3.40 BRITISH CAR AUCTIONS JUBILEE HANDICAP (216,596: 1m) (16 runners)

401 (12) 100224	ADVANCE 223 (D.F.) (J. Twell) 7-8-10	Pat Eddery	88
402 (12) 103224	WALWIS 196 (D.F.) (A. Maitland) 4-5-6	W. B. Rose	88
403 (12) 100000	BAMBOLENA 14 (C.G.) (Chevalier Park Stud) 1-2-3	R. C. Brown	88
404 (12) 101000	AL BASHAAMA 16 (C.G.) (Shahk Mohamed) 1-2-3	R. C. Brown	88
405 (12) 101000	AL BASHAAMA 16 (C.G.) (Shahk Mohamed) 1-2-3	R. C. Brown	88
406 (12) 101000	SALE'S SONG 5 (P.G.S.) (Intergroup Holdings Ltd) 1-2-3	P. Cook	88
407 (12) 101000	TURFAN 23 (P.G.) (A. Maitland) 1-2-3	B. Thompson	88
408 (12) 101000	OPEN HERO 187 (P.G.) (G. Tong) 1-2-3	S. Causton	88
409 (12) 101000	PICTOGRAPH 14 (C.D.F.G.S.) (L. D. Robinson) 1-2-3	P. Cook	88
410 (12) 101000	PERION 196 (P.G.) (J. Twell) 1-2-3	C. Butler	88
411 (12) 101000	PERION 196 (P.G.) (J. Twell) 1-2-3	C. Butler	88
412 (12) 101000	KICK THE HABIT 5 (G.) (Capt M. Lemoine) 1-2-3	T. W. Jones	88
413 (12) 101000	PERION 196 (P.G.) (J. Twell) 1-2-3	C. Butler	88
414 (12) 101000	PERION 196 (P.G.) (J. Twell) 1-2-3	C. Butler	88
415 (12) 101000	PERION 196 (P.G.) (J. Twell) 1-2-3	C. Butler	88
416 (12) 101000	PERION 196 (P.G.) (J. Twell) 1-2-3	C. Butler	88
417 (12) 101000	PERION 196 (P.G.) (J. Twell) 1-2-3	C. Butler	88
418 (12) 101000	PERION 196 (P.G.) (J. Twell) 1-2-3	C. Butler	88
419 (12) 101000	PERION 196 (P.G.) (J. Twell) 1-2-3	C. Butler	88
420 (12) 101000	PERION 196 (P.G.) (J. Twell) 1-2-3	C. Butler	88

BETTING: 7-2 Al Bashaama, 5-1 Pictograph, 5-1 Kick the Habit, 7-1 Sale's Song, 8-1 Auction Time, 10-1 Perion, 10-1 Advance, 12-1 Turfan, 14-1 Pictograph, 14-1 Walwis, 20-1 Others.

FORM ADVANCE (12) 100224, good to lead close home, beaten 1 1/2 by Don't Forget Me (11) at Newmarket (1m, 21.2.87).

WALWIS (12) 103224, good to lead close home, beaten 1 1/2 by Don't Forget Me (11) at Newmarket (1m, 21.2.87).

BAMBOLENA (14) 100000, good to lead close home, beaten 1 1/2 by Don't Forget Me (11) at Newmarket (1m, 21.2.87).

AL BASHAAMA (16) 101000, good to lead close home, beaten 1 1/2 by Don't Forget Me (11) at Newmarket (1m, 21.2.87).

SALE'S SONG (5) 101000, good to lead close home, beaten 1 1/2 by Don't Forget Me (11) at Newmarket (1m, 21.2.87).

TURFAN (23) 101000, good to lead close home, beaten 1 1/2 by Don't Forget Me (11) at Newmarket (1m, 21.2.87).

OPEN HERO (187) 101000, good to lead close home, beaten 1 1/2 by Don't Forget Me (11) at Newmarket (1m, 21.2.87).

PICTOGRAPH (14) 101000, good to lead close home, beaten 1 1/2 by Don't Forget Me (11) at Newmarket (1m, 21.2.87).

PERION (196) 101000, good to lead close home, beaten 1 1/2 by Don't Forget Me (11) at Newmarket (1m, 21.2.87).

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Power and glory: Willie Carson drives out Don't Forget Me (left) to hold Bellotto's determined challenge by a neck in the 2,000 Guineas at Newmarket on Saturday

Brave Don't Forget Me chasing Guineas double

By Michael Seely

Don't Forget Me was lame yesterday morning but Richard Horgan remained hopeful that Saturday's dramatic winner of the General Accident 2,000 Guineas will be in the time-up for the conventional Irish classic on May 16.

"He's very sore," said the Wiltshire trainer. "But he should be all right after being turned out in a paddock for a couple of days and given a pick of grass."

As far as the Derby is concerned, there has to be a question as to whether a mile and a half will be his trip, so we'll have to think about that after The Curragh."

A tidal wave of emotion engulfed the Newmarket racing community yesterday when Willie Carson rode back in triumph after recording his third Guineas victory. Eight of the 12 Horgan brothers and sisters from County Cork, together with three planeloads of relations and friends, gave their heroes a Cheltenham-like welcome.

The trainer, stunned and dazed after the tension-packed hours of the ice pack and jaccuzzi-booster treatment to the bruised off-side, said: "I can't believe it's happened. I can't believe that Don't Forget Me has won."

But won he had—in a wind-assisted 1 min 36.74 secs, the fastest time recorded in the classic since My Babu in 1948.

But the colt's relentless front-running tactics resulted in increasingly quick quarters times, falling from 25.6 in the first to 22.75 for the final 100 yards. Despite the narrowness of the winning margin, Don't Forget Me had dominated his field throughout in his authoritative victory.

How marvellous it is for the good of the game that the professional, ambitious and exuberant Horgan should have saddled his second Guineas yearling purchase for such a sporting clan of owners.

And what a gamble they landed. "We not only backed

him at all prices from 66-1 downwards, ante-post," said Jim Horgan. "We all went in again today when he drifted to 10-1."

Afterwards, the stewards inquired into three separate incidents, from jostling between Ajdal, Most Welcome and On-going Situation after the start, the bump given to Ajdal by

experience of watching Interval finish third to Miesque in the 1,000 Guineas, said: "I'm always pleased if they run well."

"Bellotto will probably go to York for the Mecca Danic Stakes. "Genghis is likely to go straight to Epsom," he added.

Ladbrokes, in making Bellotto, Ajdal and Most Welcome 14-1 chances for the Derby, are ignoring the precedents set by St. Paddy, Mill Reef, Roberto, Grandstand and The Minstrel, who in the past 27 years, were defeated in their respective Guineas before going on to triumph at Epsom.

However, it is a volatile situation. The Guineas often proves to be the most informative Derby trial, and it cannot be ignored. Only a little over three lengths separated the first six horses home.

Henry Cecil, Midyan's trainer, highlighted this when he said: "Midyan is a tough little horse, but on balance, I can't think that it was a good Guineas."

The hunt to find challengers to the Guineas form is now on with a vengeance. Cecil plans to run Legat in next Saturday's Lingfield Derby trial, and Reference Point in York's Mecca Danic Stakes, the following Wednesday.

Meanwhile, Shady Heights, the 6-1 favourite, goes on trial in the Dee Stakes at Chester on Thursday with Steve Causton, fresh from his treble on Saturday, in the saddle.

Geoffrey Wragg intends to give the Robert Armstrong-trained Shady Heights a searching examination as he is running Roman Gunner as a pacemaker for Favourite Guest, the Newmarket trainer's winner in the Wood Ditton Stakes.

Bellotto came home like a rocket, closing on the winner all the way to the line. Jeremy Tree, having also had the venetians

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And what a gamble they landed. "We not only backed

him at all prices from 66-1 downwards, ante-post," said Jim Horgan. "We all went in again today when he drifted to 10-1."

Afterwards, the stewards inquired into three separate incidents, from jostling between Ajdal, Most Welcome and On-going Situation after the start, the bump given to Ajdal by

experience of watching Interval finish third to Miesque in the 1,000 Guineas, said: "I'm always pleased if they run well."

"Bellotto will probably go to York for the Mecca Danic Stakes. "Genghis is likely to go straight to Epsom," he added.

Ladbrokes, in making Bellotto, Ajdal and Most Welcome 14-1 chances for the Derby, are ignoring the precedents set by St. Paddy, Mill Reef, Roberto, Grandstand and The Minstrel, who in the past 27 years, were defeated in their respective Guineas before going on to triumph at Epsom.

However, it is a volatile situation. The Guineas often proves to be the most informative Derby trial, and it cannot be ignored. Only a little over three lengths separated the first six horses home.

Henry Cecil, Midyan's trainer, highlighted this when he said: "Midyan is a tough little horse, but on balance, I can't think that it was a good Guineas."

The hunt to find challengers to the Guineas form is now on with a vengeance. Cecil plans to run Legat in next Saturday's Lingfield Derby trial, and Reference Point in York's Mecca Danic Stakes, the following Wednesday.

Meanwhile, Shady Heights, the 6-1 favourite, goes on trial in the Dee Stakes at Chester on Thursday with Steve Causton, fresh from his treble on Saturday, in the saddle.

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KEMPTON PARK

Selections

By Mandarin	By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.10 Creve Coeur.	2.10 Mubdi.
2.40 Mubdi.	2.40 Mubdi.
3.10 Abulmamm.	3.10 Rimah.
3.40 Terminator.	3.40 Al Bashaama.
4.10 Pictograph.	4.10 Pictograph.
4.40 Timbuck.	4.40 Ribogiri.

Michael Seely's selection: 3.40 Al Bashaama.

Going:

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

Frayn's Berlin flashback

● Michael Frayn's superb documentary, *Imagine a City Called Berlin* (BBC2, 10.00pm), gets a welcome repeat as part of the BBC season devoted to the art and culture of Germany. First shown in 1974, and a companion piece to an equally absorbing Frayn programme on Vienna, it picks up threads from the Berlin of today to evoke the city in its Imperial glory before the First World War. Most programmes of this sort rely on a combination of talking heads and archive film. Frayn makes plentiful and effective use of both but he also goes beyond the familiar to explore, for instance, how the life of the city has been recorded by artists. This is, essentially, a personal view. Like John Betjeman and James Cameron, Frayn is one of those rare television

performers who can transcend the apparatus of the medium and come across fresh and unaffected. It is a pity he does not visit the small screen more often.

● The Corner House (Channel 4, 9.30pm) is a new sitcom about a greasy spoon café run by a left-wing gay called Gilbert whose hates include royalty and South African fruit. The first episode also introduces Gilbert's assistant, Dave, who is having girl-friend trouble, and an attempt by a fire officer (also gay) to close the place down. Christopher Eymard and Robert Llewellyn, who wrote the show, play Gilbert and Dave. I am not sure what they are getting at.

Peter Waymark

● Peter Davalle writes: Molière's *The Miser* (Radio 4, 3.00pm) is tremendous fun, tailor-made for holiday listening whatever the Day, May or Christmas. The adaptation is the familiar one by Miles Malleston, now nearly 40 years old yet still as bright and sharp as a new pin. Not Molière to the letter, perhaps, but the spirit is left intact and director Peter Kavanagh drives the action along as if his life depended on it. Is there, I wonder, any comedy of manners that thrives more vigorously on misconception than Molière's *L'Avare*? The production is faultlessly cast, from Michael Horden's old skinflint (who shares with Scrooge the honour of being the most full-blooded miser in fiction) to Christopher Godwin's polymorphic menial.

Michael Horden: he plays the title role in Miles Malleston's version of Molière's *The Miser*, on Radio 4 at 3.00pmBrandenburg Gate: one of the famous landmarks visited by Michael Frayn in *Imagine a City Called Berlin* (BBC2, 10.00pm)

BBC1

- 6.00 Ceefax AM, 6.55 Weather.
- 7.00 Breakfast Time. National and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25.
- 8.40 Cartoon Double Bill, 8.55 Regional news and weather.
- 9.00 News and weather 9.05 Rolf Harris Cartoon Time 9.30 Neighbours. (r)
- 10.00 News and weather 10.05 Children's BBC. Andy Crane with programme news, and birthday greetings 10.10 Play School.
- 10.30 Film: A Gift for Heidi (1958) starring Sandy Descher. A young orphan learns the meaning of the three wooden figures given to her by the Alpen village woodcutter. Directed by George Templeton 11.40 Film: Dot and the Bunny. An animated feature film, set in the Australian bush. Directed by Yoram Gross. 12.55 Regional news and weather.
- 1.00 One O'Clock News with Maryn Lewis. Weather. 1.25 Neighbours. Drama serial set in a Melbourne suburb 1.50 Hockey Cadey. (r)
- 2.05 The Pink Panther Show. (r)
- 2.25 Film: Waterloo (1970) starring Rod Stiger, Christopher Plummer, and Orson Welles. The story of the great French general from the time of his exile on Elba to the Battle of Waterloo. Directed by Sergei Bondarchuk. (Ceefax)
- 4.35 Bugs Bunny's Mad World of Television. (r)
- 4.55 Final Score. International Circus Gala from the Battersea Big Top. With, from England, the Eight Nevada, a wild west act from Spain, high-speed juggling from Aissa and

- Hayat, from Italy, trampolining from the Canastrell; from the United States, Miss Dolly on the roman rings; and from Cuba, papaya artists, the Flying Papeas.
- 5.55 News and sport. With Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell. Weather. 6.05 Regional news and sport.
- 6.10 Where Eagles Fly. A Royal Society for the Protection of Birds film studying the life of the golden eagle and the lives of other animals that share its harsh habitat. Narrated by Tony Britton. (Ceefax)
- 7.00 Wogan. The guests are Desmond Lynam, John Styles, Harry Corbett and his son, Matthew. Music is provided by Juvenile Jazz.
- 7.40 The Rock 'n' Roll Years. 1965, the year President Johnson was elected, and Winston Churchill died. Among those providing the music are The Righteous Brothers and The Rolling Stones. (r)
- 8.10 Ever Decreasing Circles. Martin is in a high state of nervous tension. (r)
- 8.40 Film: Beverly Hills Connection (1985) starring James Brolin, Lisa Hartman, and David Hemmings. A made-for-television thriller about a detective investigating the murder of her friend in Beverly Hills. Directed by Corey Allen. (Ceefax)
- 10.15 News with Julia Somerville and Andrew Harvey. Regional news and weather.
- 10.30 Matt Houston. The investigator comes to the aid of Roy Houston when his former colleagues are systematically murdered.
- 11.20 George Burns's 90th Birthday. Highlights of the performer's 90th birthday celebrations at the Beverly Theatre in Beverly Hills.
- 12.10 Weather.

BBC2

- 6.55 Open University: Learning and Doing Maths. Ends at 7.20.
- 8.55 The Week in the Lords. A repeat of yesterday's programme of highlights of the week's proceedings in the House of Lords.
- 9.35 Ceefax.
- 10.00 You and Me. For four- and five-years old. (r)
- 10.12 Ceefax.
- 10.30 Film: The Kid With the 200 L.C. (1983) starring Gary Coleman. A made-for-television story about a 13-year-old university student where he meets his idol, an astronomy professor. Directed by Leslie Martinson.
- 12.00 Ice Skating. The Skate Electric British Challenge, from Streatham, London.
- 1.00 News at One with David Cass.
- 1.05 Film: Ben and Me (1953) An animated Walt Disney story of Anuro, a poor church mouse.
- 1.30 Film: Spartacus (1960) starring Kirk Douglas, Laurence Olivier, Jean Simmons, Charles Laughton, and Peter Ustinov. Spectacular epic about a Thracian who builds an army of fellow gladiators to take on the might of the Roman Empire. Directed by Stanley Kubrick.
- 4.55 News and sport.
- 5.10 The A-Team. The restful quartet are hired by a mysterious woman to help her reclaim her father's title to an African diamond mine. Starring George Peppard. (r)
- 6.05 Film: What's My Line? Eamonn Andrews presents another round of the odd occupations quiz. With George Gale, Barbara Wiles, and Emile Wiles.
- 6.35 Crossroads.
- 6.55 World Snooker. The closing session of the final of the Embassy World Professional Championship, introduced by David Vine.
- 10.00 Imagine a City Called Berlin. Michael Frayn's documentary in which he attempts to recapture the glories of Imperial Berlin behind the ruins and rebuilding of the city in the present day. This film does from pieces of the Imperial City still to be seen, Berliners' recollections, and by paintings recording the life of the city. (r)
- 10.55 Fred Young in Concert. Highlights from a concert recorded especially for the BBC at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. (r)
- 12.10 Open University. Cragside. Ends at 12.40. N.B. programme times after the snooker are approximate.

ITV/LONDON

- 7.00 TV-am: Wide Awake Club Bank Holiday Special presented by Timmy Mallett, Arabella Warner, and James Baker.
- 9.25 Film: Avaranches (1975) starring Michael Portman and David Ronder. Drama about a young man, on a school skiing holiday, who despite warnings, decides to climb the Elpha mountain, bringing along his reluctant room-mate. Directed by Frederick Goode.
- 10.20 Film: The Kid With the 200 L.C. (1983) starring Gary Coleman. A made-for-television story about a 13-year-old university student where he meets his idol, an astronomy professor. Directed by Leslie Martinson.
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- 6.35 Crossroads.
- 7.00 Watching You Watching Us presented by Julian Pettifer. Six families discuss how much influence television has on children.
- 7.30 Convention Street. Deirdra steps up her election campaign. (Oracle)
- 8.00 In Private. In Public: The Prince and Princess of Wales. A repeat of the programme, filmed over a number of months, capturing the public and private life of the Prince and Princess of Wales. The programme includes film of the royal couple planning tours, on official engagements, relaxing at an informal birthday party and at their home at Highgrove where Prince Charles is the guide on a tour of the garden he designed, and Princess Diana spends with her children as they ride their pony and play in the grounds. (Oracle)
- 9.15 News with David Cass, and sport.
- 9.30 Fields of Fire. The second and final part of the drama about the young Englishman who goes to live in Australia during the 1930s. Tonight, as the Second World War leaves its mark on the young men of the canyoning town of Innisfail, Billy falls in love with Dusty. Starring Todd Boyce and Melissa Ducker.
- 11.30 Prospects. Comedy drama series about two young entrepreneurs based on London's Isle of Dogs. Tonight, Billy is reluctantly persuaded that rat-catching is a simple exercise. Starring Gary Olsen and Brian Bovell. (r) (Oracle)
- 12.30 Tales from the Darkside: Mookie and Pookie. A young computer buff tries to program his spirit into his machine. Starring Tippi Hedren. Ends at 12.55.

CHANNEL 4

- 1.15 Film: Fancy Pants (1950) starring Bob Hope and Lucille Ball. An out-of-work British actor is hired as a butler to a rich woman living in New Mexico. But he is mistaken for an earl and has to keep up the pretence when the President arrives in town. Directed by George Marshall.
- 3.00 Channel 4 Racing from Kempton Park. The Union Jack Stakes (3.10); the British Car Auctions Jubilee Stakes (3.40); and the Blackhorse Car Auctions Graduation Stakes (4.10)
- 4.30 Countdown. Friday's winner is challenged by Tony Cook of Alnwick, Northumberland.
- 5.00 Hogan's Heroes. Vintage American comedy series about a group of resourceful Allied prisoners-of-war.
- 5.30 The Abbott and Costello Show. Lou has to find a 'wife' in order to be eligible for a \$10,000 gift.
- 6.00 Painted by Numbers. Decorating With a Difference. Part two of the series on do-it-yourself home decorating. (r)
- 6.30 Listeria Ear. Magazine programme for the hearing impaired.
- 7.00 News summary and weather followed by Twenty Twenty Visitors. A Sister Harvest. A documentary about a British-funded oil palm plantation in Mindanao, in the Philippines which originally used a paramilitary death squad as security guards. These guards were accused of terrorising the local people. After questions were asked in the Commons, the owners undertook to improve conditions. Have they kept their word?
- 8.00 Brookside. Pat and Terry begin their campaign to fight eviction.
- 8.30 Chateaufort. The French language version of episode 14 of the drama serial about two rival families in a Loire Valley town. (subtitled)
- 9.30 The Corner House. The first of a new comedy drama series starring Christopher Eymard and Robert Llewellyn as a corner cafe owner and his over-enthusiastic assistant. (see Choice)
- 10.00 Film: Le Vaisseau Marie (1980) Jean-Luc Godard's controversial modern-day version of the nativity story, set in Switzerland with Mary as a teenager working in her father's garage.
- 10.30 The Magic Finger (s) Presented by Le Livre de Marie, a short film studying the break-up of a marriage as seen through the eyes of the couple's 11-year-old daughter.
- 12.00 Don't Eat Today, or Tomorrow. A Dutch-made film about the economic troubles of Argentina. (r) Ends at 12.40.

VARIATIONS

- BBC1 WALES 6.05pm-6.10pm Wales Today. 12.10pm-1.15pm Rugby Special. 1.15pm-1.30pm News. 1.30pm-1.45pm Wales Today. 1.45pm-2.00pm Wales Today. 2.00pm-2.15pm Wales Today. 2.15pm-2.30pm Wales Today. 2.30pm-2.45pm Wales Today. 2.45pm-3.00pm Wales Today. 3.00pm-3.15pm Wales Today. 3.15pm-3.30pm Wales Today. 3.30pm-3.45pm Wales Today. 3.45pm-4.00pm Wales Today. 4.00pm-4.15pm Wales Today. 4.15pm-4.30pm Wales Today. 4.30pm-4.45pm Wales Today. 4.45pm-5.00pm Wales Today. 5.00pm-5.15pm Wales Today. 5.15pm-5.30pm Wales Today. 5.30pm-5.45pm Wales Today. 5.45pm-6.00pm Wales Today. 6.00pm-6.15pm Wales Today. 6.15pm-6.30pm Wales Today. 6.30pm-6.45pm Wales Today. 6.45pm-7.00pm Wales Today. 7.00pm-7.15pm Wales Today. 7.15pm-7.30pm Wales Today. 7.30pm-7.45pm Wales Today. 7.45pm-8.00pm Wales Today. 8.00pm-8.15pm Wales Today. 8.15pm-8.30pm Wales Today. 8.30pm-8.45pm Wales Today. 8.45pm-9.00pm Wales Today. 9.00pm-9.15pm Wales Today. 9.15pm-9.30pm Wales Today. 9.30pm-9.45pm Wales Today. 9.45pm-10.00pm 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Bottom four face the crunch

Of the four managers of the clubs occupying the bottom four places in the first division, Jimmy Frizzell, of Manchester City, was the most confident before today's crucial programme.

Frizzell's side have beaten Arsenal and drawn with Everton in their last outings, and he believes that they can win their remaining matches — at home to Nottingham Forest today, and away to West Ham on Saturday — on current form.

The future looks bleak for Aston Villa, the bottom club, who play Sheffield Wednesday with defenders Williams, Keown and Doran, and midfield players Birch and Stannard doubtful.

Lennie Lawrence, the Charlton manager, may gamble on his forward, McRae, even if he is still suffering from a virus, against Newcastle at St James' today.

Leicester, now occupying the play-off place, meet Coventry at home today; but the club's destiny probably lies beyond Filbert Street. Three clubs from Manchester City, Villa, Charlton, Leicester and Oxford will be relegated; another one enters the play-offs. On Saturday, in their final League game, Leicester take the worst away record in the first division to Oxford.

At the top of the table, Everton travel to Norwich needing three points from their three remaining games to seal the title. The Merseysiders end the season as they started, in an injury crisis. They lost Reid with concussion and Clarke with a damaged shoulder on Saturday.

Real to appeal against ban

Real Madrid will appeal against the UEFA decision to ban supporters at their next two European home matches, following crowd trouble in their European Cup semi-final home leg against Bayern Munich last month.

Northern Ireland were fined 2,000 Swiss francs (about £800) for crowd trouble in their European Championship match against England at Windsor Park in March.

Souness sorry

Graeme Souness, the player-manager of Rangers, apologised for his dismissal shortly after his side's 1-1 draw with Aberdeen that won Scotland's League championship at Pittodrie on Saturday.

Mansell sets pace and goes top

From John Blunsden

Nigel Mansell has taken a slender one-point lead in the world championship by his victory in yesterday's San Marino Grand Prix, a race in which he moved into first place on the second of the 59 laps and remained there for all but four laps immediately after his mid-race pit stop.

After pacing himself carefully on a circuit notoriously heavy on fuel consumption he crossed the line with his Canon Williams-Honda over 27 seconds ahead of the second placed Camel Lotus-Honda, of Ayrton Senna, the initial race leader.

But what had looked a comfortable race for Mansell proved to have been very hard work. "I lost a balance weight off one of the wheels and the vibration meant that I had to stop for replacement tyres earlier than I wanted to. It meant that my second set of Goodyears had a lot of work to do, but they behaved perfectly."

"I also had some trouble with a back marker, who came close to putting me off, and a brake problem gave me a moment up at the chicane. But mainly, it was a hard race because I wanted to build a cushion just in case things went wrong later, but I still had to keep within my fuel limit. The false start helped a bit — it meant we had to do one less racing lap — and at the end I reckon I had about half a lap's worth left."

"There's nothing quite as good as the first GP win of the season, and although there's still 14 more races to go, at least being at the top of the table means I'm back in the park."

Senna spent much of the race battling strongly with the

Ferrari of Michele Alboreto, who eased off at the end to finishing third, and earlier on with Gerhard Berger's car before it dropped out with a faulty electrical connection.

An electrical problem also brought the retirement after only 14 laps of the pre-race favourite, Alain Prost, but Stefan Johansson salvaged fourth place for the Marlboro McLaren team despite a long pit stop to replace a nose cone.

Before the race, Martin Brundle told me: "We've got quite a few problems with the

San Marino details

RESULT: 1. N. Mansell (GB) Canon Williams-Honda, 59 laps, 1:20.43; 2. A. Senna (Br) Camel Lotus-Honda, 1:31.51; 3. M. Alboreto (It) Ferrari, 1:32.44; 4. S. Johansson (Sw) Marlboro McLaren TAG, 1:32.44; 5. M. Brundle (GB) West Zakspeed, 59 laps, 1:33.55; 6. C. Suter (Sw) Camel Lotus-Honda, 57 laps, 1:33.55; 7. C. Dornier (Fr) West Zakspeed, 57 laps, 1:33.55; 8. P. Streif (Fr) Courrois Tyrrell-Ford, 57 laps, 1:33.55; 9. R. Fittipaldi (Br) Brabham-BMW, 57 laps, 1:33.55; 10. P. Alliot (Fr) Larrousse, 57 laps, 1:33.55; 11. D. Warwick (GB) USF&G Arrows-Magneti, 55 laps, 1:33.55; 12. A. Caffi (It) Scuderia Alfa, 54 laps, 1:33.55; 13. P. F. (Fr) Agip Agip, 54 laps, 1:33.55; 14. J. (Fr) Agip Agip, 54 laps, 1:33.55; 15. J. (Fr) Agip Agip, 54 laps, 1:33.55; 16. J. (Fr) Agip Agip, 54 laps, 1:33.55; 17. J. (Fr) Agip Agip, 54 laps, 1:33.55; 18. J. (Fr) Agip Agip, 54 laps, 1:33.55; 19. J. (Fr) Agip Agip, 54 laps, 1:33.55; 20. J. (Fr) Agip Agip, 54 laps, 1:33.55; 21. J. 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